

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

Volume XVII

DENVER, COLORADO

Number 2



JULY 1935

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE
AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK
ASSOCIATION

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR

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The price is 10 cents per dose.

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R.H. Cashee
President

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THE AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

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Ancestry and Evolution of Hogs

BY EDWARD N. WENTWORTH

Chicago, Illinois

ALTHOUGH SWINE COMPRIZE THE MOST primitive species of domestic animals, they are really one of the most recent to be brought under domestication. Among all the animals associated with civilization, swine have changed the least from the primitive form in which mammals were found when they emerged millions of years ago from surroundings that had been dominated by the giant reptiles. In the last few years the public has been made thoroughly familiar with these giant reptiles through the advertising of one of the large oil companies. They were spectacular and played an important role in the field of evolution, but they gradually became so cumbersome that they were unable to survive with the limited intelligence they possessed.

Swine were typical of the primitive mammals which took possession of the scene following this period. At that time all of the mammals were small and possessed a primitive pattern in the teeth, number of vertebræ, number of ribs, number and shape of bones in the limbs, and pattern of the digestive system that made them all seem closely related. Much the same skeletal pattern and general style of carriage were possessed by the ancestors of the hog, horse, ox, sheep, deer, dog, cat, monkey, and ape.

The first characteristic was the possession of fourteen pairs of ribs (still normal with swine); the second characteristic was the possession of a full mouth of teeth (forty-four), including three pairs of

incisors, one pair of canines, four pairs of premolars (bicuspid), and three pairs of molars (still characteristic of swine). Variations from this primitive tooth-pattern have been many—horses having dropped one pair of premolars and the pair of canines in mares, cattle and sheep having dropped one pair of premolars and all the upper incisors and canines. The dog has apparently dropped only one pair of premolars, while some monkeys, apes, and man have dropped one pair of incisors and two pairs of premolars. Swine, on the other hand, retained the full forty-four teeth.

The story of the number of ribs shows almost as great variability. While swine and bison still retain their fourteen pairs, the ox and sheep have only thirteen, the dog has twelve, with a false rib in addition, and man has only twelve. The horse has eighteen, four false ribs, or spinal processes, being added to the original fourteen.

Ancestor of Swine Inhabited Europe and Asia

The earliest known ancestor of swine lived in Europe and Asia some 35,000,000 years ago. He did not look so very different from his modern descendants in the barnyard, except that modern pigs have increased in size and have varied somewhat in the shape of their skulls, while certain varieties of pigs have changed the pattern of their teeth. This ancestral animal was called *Palaeochoerus*. While there were some other freakish forms of pigs that were

coexistent with *Palaeochoerus*, they apparently gave rise to none of the modern pigs, and should merely be considered relatives of the true ancestors of swine. This original type of *Palaeochoerus* was confined largely to what is now India and southern



Courtesy, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.
FIGURE 1—THE GIANT ENTELODONT

China, and it became the ancestor of the true pigs. One of the near relatives of *Palaeochoerus* migrated to North America and there gave rise to peccaries—the only pig-like animals remaining in the New World at the time that Columbus landed.

The period since the extinction of the large reptiles has been called by naturalists "The Age of Mammals." This elapse of time (Cenozoic Era) has been divided into various periods, the first being named the Eocene, or "dawn of the modern" period. This was followed by the Oligocene, the Miocene, the Pliocene, and the Pleistocene. All of these preceded modern time, or the Holocene. The Pleistocene was characterized by the last period of advance of the prehistoric glaciers, and it was during this period that the prehistoric horses became extinct in North America. In the early Eocene, however, occurred the first differentiation of the more modern groups of mammals, and numerous swine-like species were found. These developed and branched rather numerously off the line of descent to modern hogs, and in the late Eocene and early Oligocene certain giant pigs developed which were almost as large as our smaller draft-horses of the present day. Among them was the giant *Entelodont* (Figure 1), which, however, had such poor teeth and small brain capacity that, like the giant reptiles, it failed to survive.

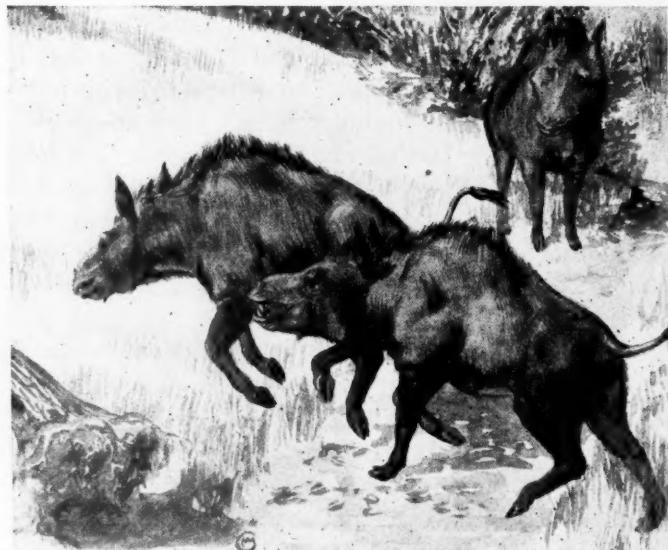
At this early date there were two distinct types of even-toed hooved mammals, one showing the characteristics of the primitive ruminant (or cud-chewer), while the other retained the simple digestive organs found today in the majority of mammals. It was from this latter type that the modern hog arose.

Peculiarly, the only remnants of this simple type are hippopotami, hogs, and peccaries, while the ruminant type has multiplied into a great variety of species. The original home of the ancestors of modern swine was southern Asia, as already indicated, and from this center the true swine spread out over Europe and Africa in a westward direction, and over Indo-China and China on an eastward course. It is probable that they crossed from Asia into the Americas by a land bridge which must have existed at Bering Strait, but it is also probable that no true swine came across—only the peccaries.

Three Families of Swine

Swine are one of the main sections of the Artiodactyls (even-toed mammals) and comprise three families: the *Suidae*, or true pigs; the *Dicotylidae*, or peccaries; and the *Hippopotamidae*, or hippopotami. Five species of true pigs exist: *Phacochoerus*, or the African wart-hog; *Hylochoerus*, or the African forest pig; *Babirussa*, or the four-tusked hog of the Celebes; *Potamochoerus*, or the African bush and river hog; and *Sus*, the European and Asiatic wild boar and its relatives.

One characteristic difference between the true pig and the peccaries is in the position of the canine teeth, which always remain in a vertical position in the peccaries, so that the bite is always up and down. On the other hand, the canines, or tusks, in the true



Courtesy, Natural History Magazine
FIGURE 2—A BATTLE BETWEEN TWO DINOHYUS BOARS
Dinohyus, a distant cousin of the pig, was about as large as the bison of today

pig project at an angle toward the outside of the mouth, and permit a sidewise movement of the jaw as well as the up-and-down movement.

While the peccaries were the only representatives of the swine family in America in historical times, there were large numbers of swine species in the

pre-glacial period. Back in the Miocene the North American prairies were ruled by a species called *Dinohyus* (Figure 2)—an animal standing five to six feet in height at the shoulder, as large as the bison, and possessed of long legs well adapted to rapid running. They had tremendous heads, and “they were armed with cruel tusks that flashed white in the sun as they rooted in the ground or snapped peevishly at one another.”



Courtesy, Natural History Magazine

FIGURE 3—A MOTHER PROMERYCOCHOERUS AND HER YOUNG
These water-loving animals often came out on the plains to graze.
The adults were about the size of a large hog

At the time that this hog lived on the prairies, another cousin of ancestral hogs lived in the wet ground along rivers, sand-bars, and swamps. In proportion, it was not unlike a small hippopotamus—body big, long, and heavy, and legs short. The head was very broad at the cheek-bones, and there was a rather long muzzle. This was *Promerycochoerus* (Figure 3)—an animal related to modern pigs.

In the low bushes between the prairies and streams, keeping well within the shelter of the low trees, was a third form of hog, a true peccary. These were small, mean-tempered, pig-like animals, fleet of foot, with sharp tusks. The species was called *Desmathyus* (Figure 4). At later times even larger species of swine appeared, but none of them made any contribution to the modern hog.

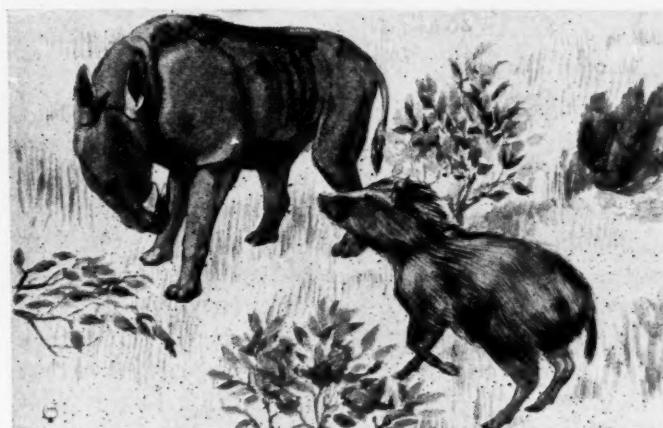
While swine have been very conservative in their skeleton and general make-up, they have proved quite adaptable to all continents, various forms of pig-like animals being found in Africa, Europe, and Asia. All of these, however, are descended from *Palaeochoerus*.

Domestic Hog Descended from Two Species

Sus (the true hog) has been known in Europe and Asia since the late Miocene period, and in the East Indies, New Guinea, and northeastern Africa since the Pliocene. However, it is questionable whether any of the African species are related to the domestic hog. The European wild boar, *Sus scrofa*

(Figure 5), is distributed through Europe from the French forests to the Caucasus and Ural Mountains, and was probably the ancestor of most domestic swine, although there has been a considerable infusion of the blood of the Chinese and Indo-Chinese species—*Sus indicus*. *Sus scrofa* has a wide range and varies just sufficiently in different localities to tempt certain authorities to classify it into several species, but broader investigation has almost invariably proved them to be mere geographic varieties. The wild boar has always been celebrated for size, speed, and ferocity, and for many centuries has been an object of the chase, and a dreaded adversary when brought to bay. The forest was the original habitat of this animal, and roots, insects, grubs, nuts, and fruits furnished its food in the wild state, although it ate flesh whenever it could. Color varied, according to the surroundings, from a light agouti gray to a deep agouti brown or black. (Agouti is a condition of the hair in which a ring of white or yellow color appears a short distance from the tip of the hair, with dark color remaining at the tip.) A marked characteristic of the young of the wild boar is a striped appearance. These stripes disappear with age or domestication.

Sus indicus differed from *Sus scrofa* in having a differently shaped skull, shorter lachrymal (face) bones, differently shaped palatal (roof of the mouth) bones, and some differences in the teeth. Some pigs of this species were introduced into Europe at such



Courtesy, Natural History Magazine

FIGURE 4—DESMATHYUS, THE MIocene PECCARY
The Desmathyus encounters his neighbor, *Diceratherium*, the small, swift, two-horned rhinoceros

an early date as completely to modify them and to result in the classification of their domestic descendants with *Sus scrofa*.

Not Much Known About Domestication Process

The story of domestication is practically unknown, although we find Chinese records of swine dating back to as early as 2900 B.C. There are also records of swine in Grecian history and mythology, and in

the Mosaic law, the first known date for the latter being about 1500 B.C. Domestic swine trace their descent almost exclusively from *Sus scrofa* and *Sus indicus*. In early days, domestic swine were herded in the woods in large droves, and Sir Walter Scott's description of the daily routine of Gurth, the swine-herd, in the early chapters of "Ivanhoe" probably gives as accurate a picture as we can find of primitive swine husbandry. From this rather slow-maturing type of wild hog have descended the Tamworth breed and the so-called Yorkshire (or Large White pig of Great Britain), the Large Black breed of Great Britain, and the native races of Denmark, Germany, Hungary, etc. From *Sus indicus* were descended the Chinese hog—the first recorded domestic breed of hogs; the Siamese hog, and the Neapolitan—an Italian breed developed from the oriental sources.

The flesh of swine has been used by all European nations, and in the early days of Greece and Rome



Courtesy, Am. Mus. Nat. Hist.

FIGURE 5—THE EUROPEAN WILD BOAR, *SUS SCROFA*

the methods of serving were very elaborate and costly. Historically, pork was one of the first meats to be cured in form other than mere drying, and the ease of its cure and preservation has made it a most popular factor in the human diet. Despite the lateness of domestication, the rapid rate of increase in hogs has enabled men to modify their form and general traits to a most extraordinary degree; and, as a result, the lot-fed porker probably registers as great an improvement over the wild condition as any species of domestic animal.

American Breeds Derived from British

American swine are descended from British, and the indigenous hogs of Great Britain were certainly tamed representatives of the wild boar, *Sus scrofa*. Many of the old English breeds bore the evidence of their relationship in their color as well as their conformation, but only the Tamworth today bears patently the stamp of his descent. In general body proportions, in the shape of head, and in activity and agility, the Tamworth is still a glorified *Sus scrofa*, although its size, quality, and proportion of valuable

cuts have been decidedly modified. Similarly, the large Yorkshire and the Large Black race of Britain bear quite strongly the primitive blood. About two centuries ago or more, the blood of the oriental species began to reach England, through her voyagers. Chinese hogs, Siamese hogs, and Neapolitan hogs were the principal representatives of *Sus indicus*, the last-named species being descended from crosses of Chinese and Siamese blood on south Italian pig-stocks. Some eastern blood was used on the various English breeds, the Middle Yorkshire and Small Yorkshire being particularly benefited. The breed arising from this infusion that has found widest distribution in the United States, however, is the Berkshire, which has played an important role in the foundation of the two most widely distributed lard breeds—the Poland-China and the Duroc-Jersey. The Chester White traces back through the Irish Grazier breed to *Sus scrofa*, and through the Bedford and Byfield breeds (popular a century ago) to both species. The Hampshire also bears the stamp of both species, the quality, smoothness, and peculiar black color tracing most certainly to *Sus indicus*, and the belting to a "sheeted" breed of England predominant in *Sus scrofa* traits. In America it is known definitely that Chinese blood entered into the make-up of the Poland-China and of the Chester White, and it seems quite probable that some of the early crosses on the Duroc-Jersey contained some Chinese blood.

Hog an Individualistic Beast

From the standpoint of degree of domestication, swine are quite individualistic. Horses and dogs become most intimate with man, while cattle, under the care of herdsmen, become almost as friendly, although less co-operative. Just what quality it is that makes some animals readily domesticated, while others remain wild, is a matter of speculation. Even closely related species show remarkable differences. Why does the dog become a member of man's household, when his cousins, the wolf and the fox, are man's enemies? Why is the horse such a tractable and co-operative servant, when the ass and mule are often stolid or tricky, and the zebra still a savage? Why do cattle roam our pastures and ranges, when the bison has become almost extinct rather than mingle with man? Certainly there is something present in the temperament and disposition of the animals that have built up civilization with man which was absent in most others. Regardless of the fact that hogs have been referred to as the "mortgage-lifter," and have been the chosen animal species for experiments under the New Deal, they are the last of the domestic mammals to be tamed, and are sooner returned to a wild condition than any other domestic species.

The highway from *Palaeochoerus* to barbecued ham and sliced bacon has been long and tortuous, but, despite the difficulties of taming, swine have become one of our principal servants and the basic marketable product of our Corn Belt agriculture. Furthermore, Charles Lamb's "Dissertation on Roast Pig" will probably still be immortal when our Bureau of Agricultural Economics no longer publishes corn-hog ratios, and "adjustment" contracts are no longer being signed.

ACTION OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE BOARD

AT THE QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE Board of the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association in Albuquerque on June 29 a number of resolutions were adopted, which we summarize as follows:

Favoring removal of 80,000,000-acre limit in formation of grazing districts under Taylor Grazing Act, and opposing elimination of McCarran amendment to act, which provides "that no permittee . . . shall be denied renewal of permit if such denial will impair value of grazing unit . . . when pledged as security for any bona fide loan;"

Commending program of Agricultural Adjustment Administration to rehabilitate settlers now residing on submarginal lands;

Urging that cattle acquired by New Mexico Emergency Relief Administration and now temporarily held in Mexico be slaughtered and used for relief purposes;

Appreciating services to live-stock industry of Dr. H. L. Kent, president of New Mexico College of Agricultural and Mechanical Arts.

On the subject of fish legislation, the resolution printed in full below was adopted:

"WHEREAS, There is now pending before Congress H. R. 8055, introduced by Representative Bland, which is designed, among other things, 'to promote the orderly marketing of fishery products,' and 'to improve the national dietary' through the promotion of increased consumption of fish; and

"WHEREAS, Said bill does not provide for the stocking of the Rio Grande, so that the people of New Mexico might have their diet properly improved; and

"WHEREAS, The bill is improperly drawn, in that it does not indicate that seaweeds should be seasoned with salt pork; and

"WHEREAS, It does not properly set up methods of control and curtailment of production in the deep seas, nor can we raise cattle in the ocean, and therefore we would derive no benefit from the large sums to be used in advertising sea-foods; therefore be it

"Resolved, That our members of Congress be asked to oppose the bill."

The board also approved the following draft of a letter submitted by S. W. Land, of Glencoe, chairman of the Tariff Committee, for transmission to the President of the United States:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

"It is unnecessary to call your attention to the unusually adverse conditions that have prevailed in the live-stock industry of the United States for the past half-decade, or to point out the necessity for rendition by our government of such consistent aid as can be given toward its rehabilitation.

"Recently there has seemed to be some improvement in the distressed condition of this industry, and, in the face of such upward trend, it would be especially inopportune to invite another disaster, such as infection in our herds and flocks would surely mean.

"Since the year 1927 our industry has enjoyed the protection of an order of the Bureau of Animal Industry which excluded entry into the United States of animals and fresh or frozen meats from regions in which foot-and-mouth disease or rinderpest exists.

"We are now informed that conversations are being held between members of our government and representatives of the government of the Republic of Argentina on the subject of reinstating the entrance of Argentine beef into our country.

"We should be remiss in our duty to ourselves, and to those whom we represent, if we failed to point out to you the danger entailed in such a policy, not only to our herds, but to the entire live-stock population of the country.

"We have not forgotten the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in 1914-15, when 172,222 animals, having an appraised value of \$5,865,720, were destroyed, at a total expenditure of approximately \$9,000,000; nor the more recent outbreak in 1924-25, when 142,152 animals, with an appraised value of \$4,919,538, were killed, at an expenditure of more than \$7,000,000.

"Nothing the government can do for the agrarian interests of this country equals in importance the preservation of the nation's live-stock market for domestic breeders and feeders. It transcends everything else. Even if all other contemplated legislation could confer every benefit that its sponsors assert, it is unimportant compared with maintaining an exclusive domestic beef market, and, incidentally, preventing another outbreak of this insidious disease.

"The present tariff on live stock and meats should not be lowered, and the tariff on canned and preserved meats should be materially increased, because of the large consignments now coming into this country.

"Import tariffs should be sufficient to cover the difference in cost of production; otherwise home production is doomed.

"The fact that foreign countries are now unloading on us great quantities of canned meats, and are capturing that trade in this country, is proof positive that the tariff on that commodity is too low.

"Lately our imports of fresh and 'canned and other prepared meats' have been rapidly growing. Statistics of the Department of Agriculture indicate a rise of 1,901 per cent for the months of February and March of this year over the corresponding months of last year in imports of fresh, frozen, cured, and pickled beef and veal.

"These figures reflect a loss to the cattlemen of the United States which they should not be compelled to bear, especially at this time, when they are still struggling under the load of five years' accumulated deficits.

"We contend that we are able to raise all the meats of various descriptions which our people require, and that our domestic stockmen are entitled to a chance to do so.

"The discount at which imported beef can be sold in our markets means but little to the average consumer, but is sufficient to place a heavy handicap on those of our producers whose geographical location or natural facilities force them to specialize in the classes of animals from which this kind of meat is derived.

"We contend that, whenever rates are not high enough to shut out ruinous foreign competition, they should promptly be raised, or they fail of their purpose, which is not to enrich the Treasury, but to give efficient support to home producers.

"To court foreign trade by permitting the practically free entry of hides, and by maintaining an insignificant duty on canned meats and beef, simply to encourage the trade in other countries for the protected interests of our eastern manufacturers, or 'in the interest of a freer flow of commerce,' is a flagrant miscarriage of justice.

"Undoubtedly not only the Argentine government, but certain eastern manufacturing and financial interests, are imbued with the determination to remove the barrier, if possible, and will, we fear, resort to the use of propaganda of any kind to obtain that end. However, the cattlemen of the United States demand that a protective tariff be maintained upon imports of live stock and meat products, whether furnished by the people of Argentina, the British Empire, Mexico, or any other country, so long as there are ample supplies for home consumption available in our markets.

"Had there been no embargo in force recently against countries where foot-and-mouth disease existed, we should not have had the recent modest advance in the price of live stock to the producer.

"If the lowest stratum of American citizenship is entitled to the solicitude professed by our government, we contend that the producing stratum, which by industry, thrift, and independence has to date kept above that lower level, is entitled to the utmost protection possible by the administration.

"We, who must help pay from our severely depleted earnings for that solicitude, demand that the same interest be taken in our business situation as in the financial situation of the Latin American producer, or the investments of our American packers and large producers in foreign countries whose products enter into direct competition with our own.

"We maintain that, if those interests desire to invest in foreign countries where operations can be conducted at a minimum cost, and where any financial benefit accruing from their operations, other than their own, is absorbed by those countries, they should then be restricted to the markets of those countries, and not be permitted to influence the regulation of the domestic market.

"If this be Nationalism, then we are Nationalists. However, we do contend and claim that we are Americans, and as such are entitled to the protection of our government against adverse competition from foreign countries, or the machinations of monopolistic interests in our country which would endanger, or perhaps destroy, our industry by advocating the entrance of cattle or meat products from infested countries.

"As this is a question of the utmost importance to all American agriculture, and especially to the cattle-producing sections of the country, the interests of which we serve in the State of New Mexico, we would respectfully ask that you state your opinion with regard to it, and your intentions concerning any further legislation that may be submitted in connection with the removal of the present protective regulation, or the lowering of the import duties upon animals or meat products.

"Assuring you of our continued confidence, and requesting an early reply, we are

"THE NEW MEXICO CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION."

LOUISIANA OPPOSES ARGENTINE PACT

UNANIMOUS APPROVAL BY FOUR HUNDRED Louisiana cattlemen, attending a meeting of the Louisiana Cattlemen's Association at Welsh on June 29, was given the below statement of policy of that organization with respect to the proposed Argentine sanitary convention:

"This statement was prepared with due deliberation, and after very careful consideration and full realization of the many contagious and infectious diseases that are prevalent among cattle throughout Central and South America.

"Among such diseases are the dreaded 'rinderpest' and the 'foot-and-mouth disease.' Notwithstanding the claim of those sponsoring this treaty that no animal will be imported from areas where foot-and-mouth disease still exists, we do not feel that the cattle, sheep, and swine in the United States would be satisfactorily protected by any such provision. We vigorously oppose permitting the importation of cattle and dressed beef from a nation where these dreaded diseases exist. Today we are celebrating the eradication of the cattle-fever tick from two-thirds of Louisiana and the starting of systematic work of eradicating this pest from the remaining one-third of the state. We are mindful of the fact that the cattle-fever tick was not a native of these United States, but was imported into this country through the laxity of governmental officials, and has cost the cattle-raisers hundreds of millions of dollars and the taxpayers many millions in the eradication of this pest. We do not want a repetition of such a costly and serious blunder.

"The treaty with Argentina is just the opening wedge. Its ratification will be followed by similar treaties with the remaining South American nations.

"The low standard of living prevailing in those nations, the smallness of their taxes and other expenses that go into and constitute their cost of production of beef cattle, make it utterly impossible for the beef-cattle producers of the United States to compete with South American producers, even with the present tariff rates. But when one considers the fact that the President of the United States has already been authorized to make substantial reductions in the prevailing tariff rates without consent of Congress, the lifting of these embargoes is a most serious threat to the very existence of the beef-cattle industry of the nation.

"It was somewhat alarming and most astonishing to learn that the Department of Agriculture has given its approval

to such a treaty. It is very difficult to conceive of a Department of Agriculture that would approve such a treaty. It is particularly bewildering when one recalls that only a few months ago this Department of Agriculture was loudly contending that there was an unwieldy surplus of cattle in the United States, and that this surplus must be done away with by an unprecedented slaughter of cattle, the purchase price thereof, and other various and sundry expenses pertaining thereto, being defrayed by the federal government.

"Whatever was accomplished by the above-referred-to 'control program' will be nullified by the ratification of this treaty. Furthermore, whenever the embargoes on South American cattle and dressed beef are lifted, the surplus of these commodities in the United States resulting from such importations will become so unwieldy as to smother this great American enterprise—the beef-cattle industry. Policies that are so obviously contradictory are most unnerving to those engaged in a business thus affected. That the great beef-cattle industry, founded by those stalwart and picturesque characters of the past, who played such an important part in the civilizing and developing of these United States, should be reduced to penury and destitution in the name of being a 'good neighbor' or for 'good fellowship' to a foreign nation is unthinkable.

"There is a more serious aspect of this matter. At the close of the World War there was created by Congress the Council of National Defense, whose duty it was to consider things vital to success in the event the United States again became engaged in another war. The Council of National Defense consisted of the then Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker, the most experienced general officers of the United States army, and a group of business leaders. Among other things, this council decided upon the absolute necessity of maintaining and preserving the beef-cattle industry in the United States, even though it might be necessary to subsidize it, in order to provide an abundance of wholesome beef, as canned beef is the most reliable and sustaining food for soldiers on the battle-fields. Should our country again become involved in another war, it would be made the more heinous because the most sustaining food for our soldiers would have to be imported from South America by long ocean voyage, with all the hazards of submarines and other methods of destruction.

"The self-respecting cattle-producers of this country do not want their industry subsidized, but they do expect their government to protect their cattle from contagious and infectious diseases of foreign countries, and their cattle investment from imported cattle and dressed beef, the production cost of which is only a fraction of the cost of their product.

"The beef-cattle producers of this country trust in the sound judgment and common-sense of the United States Senate to decline to ratify a treaty with the greatest harm to the welfare of this nation."

OREGON CATTLE RAISERS' RESOLUTIONS

TO THE REPORT OF THE MEETING OF THE OREGON Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association, held in Enterprise, May 31-June 1, published in the June issue of THE PRODUCER, we add below a summary of resolutions adopted:

Opposing change in westbound dressed-meat rates from Middle West without corresponding reduction in live-animal rates, and opposing repeal of section 4 of Interstate Commerce Act;

Opposing any limitation on marketing of live stock by measures such as Capper-Hope-Wearin bills;

Protesting against levy of processing tax on cattle and against controlling production of range cattle;

Demanding that present embargo on meat from countries afflicted with foot-and-mouth disease be continued;

Requesting that manufacturers of imported canned meat show, in conspicuous type, country of origin and date of canning;

Praising work of National Live Stock and Meat Board; Indorsing Kleberg oleomargarine bills;

Protesting against efforts to place burdensome laws on statute-books of state to handicap truck transportation;

Urging tariff increase of 50 per cent on foreign live stock and its products;

Recommending continuance of meat-grading as now done in Seattle;

Urging present program of Farm Credit Administration;

Urging assistance of publications and of home economics departments of colleges in advertising meat;

Indorsing present program of Farm Credit Administration;

Asking that Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation be continued until liquidation can be made without unfairness to any operator;

Advocating establishment of Range Cattle Experiment Station on public domain in eastern Oregon by Department of Agriculture, Oregon State College, and other co-operating agencies;

Asking that District No. 5 proposed under Taylor Grazing Act in Crook and Deschutes Counties be re-established and approved by Grazing Administrator;

Favoring passage of law providing for compulsory arbitration of all labor disputes, and praising Governor Martin for prompt handling of Portland strike situation;

Protesting against any change in system of priority of term permits on national forests;

Asking that live-stock interests be given consideration in handling of game and game preserves in state;

Opposing bills which would permit homesteading on public domain;

Favoring legislation that would compel labeling of shoes as to material of which they are made;

Opposing dumping of eastern and middle-western meats on Pacific coast, and asking railroads to maintain present live- and dressed-meat relationship;

Favoring extension of elk-hunting season to two-week period, and that one elk be allowed each hunter;

Demanding labeling of food products in which reindeer meat is used;

Asking that co-ordinator be appointed to supervise work of various credit agencies in Oregon;

Extending thanks to Department of Agriculture and officials in drought cattle and sheep purchasing program;

Thanking various district attorneys for prosecutions in cattle-theft cases, and police for their work in apprehending thieves;

Praising Taylor Grazing Act and asking that it be given fair trial; and praising work of Eastern Oregon Public Lands Use Committee in developing water, improving range, and eradicating poisonous plants;

Thanking Elmer Goudy for purchase of live stock on Portland market last year, thereby maintaining better price-level than otherwise would have been possible.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT MONTANA MEETING

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE MONTANA STOCK Growers' Association at its convention in Great Falls on May 23-25, which were not included in our report of that meeting printed in the June PRODUCER, are summarized as follows:

Opposing pending marketing bills which would curtail free marketing of live stock;

Approving Kleberg bills which would place country on domestic fats-and-oils basis;

Urging passage of bill now before Congress which would require labeling, marking, and tagging of boots and shoes;

Opposing any reduction in tariff on cattle;

Opposing processing tax on cattle unless voluntarily initiated by cattlemen;

Demanding retention of embargo against import of cattle from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists;

Favoring early completion of tuberculosis-eradication campaign to make Montana modified accredited area;

Commending educational work of National Live Stock and Meat Board;

Requesting Great Northern Railroad to establish weekly pick-up service during fall shipping season and provide through run, with one feed in transit, to Chicago.

Thanking state highway patrol for co-operation in efforts to cope with cattle thefts;

Favoring inclusion of all public domain under Taylor Grazing Act;

Requesting State Land Board not to exchange lands, because of unsettled condition of federal land policies;

Urging Forest Service to promulgate rules for grazing permits that will stabilize live-stock industry;

Commending administration's policies relating to submarginal lands;

Opposing withdrawal of reservation lands if such action removes them from grazing;

Opposing increases in live-stock freight rates;

Asking Great Northern to reduce rates eastbound from Great Falls and stations east and west;

Commending federal program of buying drought cattle.

WYOMING ANNUAL MEETING

CODY, ON JUNE 18-19, WAS HOST TO A RECORD gathering of stockmen at the sixty-third annual convention of the Wyoming Stock Growers' Association. Due to President Whitaker's absence, the vice-president of the association, E. V. Robertson, of Cody, presided. Outstanding was the address of welcome of President D. R. Whitaker, which was read by E. V. Robertson. Mr. Whitaker reviewed the various problems now facing the industry, and dealt at length with the government's activities in the field of agriculture and live stock. T. D. O'Neil, of Big Piney, responded. Thereupon annual reports by the secretary and the treasurer were read, as well as reports by inspectors at the various yards where the Wyoming association maintains inspection officials. Dr. H. D. Port, chief executive officer of the Live Stock and Sanitary Board, Cheyenne, discussed problems of sanitation. C. J. Abbott, of Hyannis, Nebraska, a member of the Committee of Twenty-five, made a stirring address, in which some of the reasoning of the Secretary of Agriculture and his associates was denounced as fallacious.

The afternoon session was opened with a talk by Harry Petrie, chief of the Cattle and Sheep Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Denver, Colorado, who was followed by Leslie A. Miller, governor of Wyoming; F. S. Rickard, secretary of the Omaha Live Stock Exchange; D. H. Cunningham, of the Sioux City Live Stock Exchange; Kenneth Ikeler, of the Union Stock Yards Company, Ogden, Utah; B. H. Taylor, of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad, Chicago; and Thomas Cooper, of Casper, president of the Wyoming Wool Growers' Association.

At the opening of the Wednesday session, a letter was read from Paul R. Grever, of Cody, Wyoming's sole representative in the lower house of Congress, who called attention to the necessity of vigilance on the part of stockmen because of the dangerous legislation that often finds its way into Congress. This was followed by a talk by Edward N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago. Robert D. Carey, of Careyhurst, United States senator, who was greeted with enthusiastic applause, discussed legislative matters, criticizing the turn that many things are taking in Washington today. John D. Clark, attorney, of Cheyenne, in a non-partisan discourse, pointed to fundamental principles and dangers involved in various government programs.

In the afternoon, W. C. Deming, editor of the *Cheyenne Tribune*, delivered an address, which was followed by talks by F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association; Manville Kendrick, of Sheridan; and R. H. Rutledge, regional forester, Ogden, Utah. J. Elmer Brock, of Kaycee, spoke on the subject of the "Public Domain—Past and Present." F. E. Morgan, of the Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., presented an outline of the recently promulgated rules for administering the Taylor Grazing Act. Byron Wilson, of McKinley, secretary of the Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, who recently returned from Washington, closed the speaking program with a review of the latest information concerning the Taylor Act.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Expressing thanks to Committee of Twenty-five for its stand against recently proposed processing tax, and urging continuance of committee with its present personnel;

Appreciating efficient work of state and federal agencies in drought cattle purchase program;

Urging that there be no further cuts in grazing permits when issued next year, but that, if additional cuts become necessary, notification of such action be made at earliest possible date; asking restoration of full grazing rights to those whose areas were reduced because of recent drought conditions; objecting to switching of cattle and sheep grazing permits; and urging restoration of ten-year grazing permits;

Urging government to continue studies of problems of uniform system of grading and stamping beef;

Condemning packer feeding of live stock;

Opposing method of country buying of live stock practiced by large packers, but expressing firm stand against drastic legislation, such as Capper-Hope-Wearin bills, which would restrict freedom to sell live stock as producer sees fit;

Supporting bills now before Congress which would require labeling of shoes to indicate material of which made;

Expressing opposition to cattle-reduction or cattle-adjustment program under present conditions, and to processing or compensating tax, whether used in connection with cattle program or for any other purpose;

Urging that canned beef be plainly marked to show country of origin;

Approving work of National Live Stock and Meat Board, and urging market agencies and packers to continue to support work of board;

Indorsing Kleberg bills which would place oleomargarine industry of country on domestic-fat basis;

Demanding that there be no lowering in tariff on cattle or its products in any reciprocal trade agreements now being negotiated or later entered into;

Asking that tariff on hides be increased to 6 cents a pound on green cattle hides and kip and calf skins;

Condemning conclusion of agreement with Argentina which would allow imports of cattle and their products from that country, and demanding that this pact be not ratified by Senate;

Recommending continuance of Regional Agricultural Credit Corporation to afford additional time for repayment by producers whose loans could not be transferred to Production Credit Association, and asking that interest rate be lowered;

Opposing passage of measure now pending in Congress which would put undue restrictions upon operation of trucks;

Requesting that no change in Taylor Grazing Act be made at present time, and that sections 8, 14, and 15 thereof be made effective immediately;

Urging that either Department of Interior or Forest Service be made sole authority in administering grazing lands, pending final disposal of such lands to states wherein they lie;

Pledging effort to engage support of organizations and citizens of Wyoming to resist encroachment of federal government on primal rights in forests, minerals, scenic wealth, and grazing lands;

Requesting assistance from live-stock associations, peace officers, sheriffs, and stockmen in enforcement of live-stock theft laws.

The following officers were re-elected to serve another year: D. R. Whitaker, of Cheyenne, president; E. V. Robertson, of Cody, vice-president; M. M. Cushing, of Saratoga, treasurer; and Russell Thorp, of Cheyenne, secretary-chief inspector. J. Elmer Brock, of Kaycee, was elected honorary vice-president.

MONTEREY COUNTY (CALIFORNIA) ASSOCIATION REORGANIZES

THE MONTEREY COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION on June 12 was reorganized into an active body for gathering and making available information to aid its members in marketing their product. James H. Bardin was elected president of the new organization; Kenneth Eade, of San Lucas, was chosen vice-president, and I. Armstrong and Ray Albaugh were named secretary and assistant secretary, respectively.

WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA CONVENTION

ON JUNE 10-11, THE WESTERN SOUTH DAKOTA Stock Growers' Association held its forty-fourth annual convention at Belle Fourche. The morning of the first day was devoted to an Executive Committee meeting. In the afternoon, addresses were made by Alex Johnson, representative of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway; Edward N. Wentworth, director of Armour's Live Stock Bureau, Chicago; H. W. Mathews, representing Swift & Co., Chicago; F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association; and Y. A. Hartman, editor of the *Sioux City Record*.

The morning of the second day was given over to a conference on tuberculosis eradication. Speakers at this session were Drs. T. H. Ruth and C. H. Hays, both of Pierre, who discussed the program necessary to place western South Dakota in the modified accredited area, and Dr. H. A. Seidel, state veterinarian of Iowa. In the afternoon, L. N. Burch, of Omaha, spoke on credit matters, followed by J. H. Lemmon, of Lemmon, who dealt with the same topic. "Government Activities Affecting the Future of Agriculture" was the title of an address by A. M. Eberle, of Brookings. B. H. Heide, manager of the International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, and C. H. McNie, of the Chicago & Northwestern Railway, also made addresses. Resolutions adopted were as below:

Urging adoption of special rates for rail movements of live stock to and from grazing areas on summer ranges;

Recommending appointment of bona fide stockmen to fill first vacancy on Fish and Game Commission;

Opposing efforts to permit imports of meat and meat products from Argentina;

Indorsing Kleberg oleomargarine bills;

Opposing processing tax on cattle;

Urging correction of abuses in leases and grazing permits on Indian reservations;

Demanding that no reduction be made in tariff on cattle or their products;

Urging reconsideration of packer marketing agreement;

Commanding government for awarding contracts for meat to domestic markets;

Indorsing National Live Stock and Meat Board;

Opposing legislation that would hamper sale of live stock on ranch;

Urging extension of uniform meat-grading service;

Favoring modification of Packers' Consent Decree;

Urging that canned beef be plainly labeled to show country of origin;

Requesting that imitation leather goods be so stamped.

All the officers were re-elected: Thomas Jones, Midland, president; J. H. Nason, Spearfish, vice-president; Queena Stewart, Buffalo Gap, secretary-treasurer.

CONVENTION OF COLORADO STOCK GROWERS AND FEEDERS

THE SIXTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association was held at Steamboat Springs on June 24-25. Four hundred stockmen from all sections of the state were registered. Entertainment, arranged by A. A. Curtis, president of the association, was elaborate, local and out-of-town orchestras, bands, and crooners enlivening the convention at every turn. Following the address of welcome by C. R. Broomell, response was made by A. A. Smith, of Sterling. President Curtis, of Steamboat Springs, followed with his annual address, which reviewed the past year's activities of the association. The remainder of the morning session was given over to reports by Dr. R. M. Gow, state veterinarian, and Dr. A. H. Francis, on tuberculosis testing of range cattle, and a talk by F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, on national problems confronting western stockmen.

Allen S. Peck, regional forester, Denver, was the first speaker in the afternoon. He was followed by Harry Petrie, chief of the Cattle and Sheep Section of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, Denver, who told of past and future programs of the AAA; and James K. Wallace, marketing specialist of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Washington, D. C. A report of the secretary and announcements of committees were next on the program.

On the morning of the second day, A. C. Allen, extension animal husbandman of the Colorado Agricultural College, Fort Collins; Lynn S. Kemper, president of the Denver Live Stock Exchange; Charles W. Lilley, representative in the State Legislature from Jackson and Larimer Counties, addressed the convention. Discussion on the sales tax ensued.

Starting off the afternoon session, H. W. Mathews, representing Swift & Co., addressed the gathering on the subject of packer problems. He was followed by Fred DeBerard, of Kremmling, and Milby J. Frazier, inspector at the Denver Stock Yards. A business session and the report of the resolutions, which are summarized below, followed.

Protesting against proposed pact with Argentina that would permit importation of meats, and demanding that no imports of meat be allowed from countries where foot-and-mouth disease exists;

Opposing legislation that would interfere with free marketing of live stock;

Condemning restoration to commercial production of cattle purchased under emergency drought cattle-buying program;

Urging resubmission to AAA officials of cattle-marketing agreement for further consideration;

Opposing reduction of tariff on live stock or its products in any reciprocal trade agreement;

Favoring 6-cent tariff on hides;

Urging that country of origin of imported canned beef be conspicuously shown on labels;

Opposing processing tax on cattle unless initiated by stockmen themselves;

Favoring raising of 80,000,000-acre limitation in operation of Taylor Grazing Act;

Urging reinstatement of ten-year forest grazing permits;

Commending policy of government purchase of submarginal lands, and urging withdrawal of such lands until they are retired from production;

Opposing withdrawal of federally owned lands for game reservations;

Urging association members to co-operate with state highway patrol in enforcing state brand and live-stock theft laws;

Endorsing campaign for eradication of tuberculosis, expressing thanks to veterinarians co-operating in this work, and urging that \$5,000 state appropriation for tuberculosis work be made available for immediate use;

Urging that Bureau of Agricultural Economics extend studies relative to uniform grading of beef;

Opposing any live-stock reduction or control program under present conditions;

Opposing transfer of Forest Service to Department of Interior without hearings on question first being held in West;

Condemning interpretation of sales-tax law that imposes such tax on breeding bulls, and opposing sales tax on feed sold to producers.

A. A. Curtis, of Steamboat Springs, was re-elected president, and L. A. Edmundson, of Pueblo, vice-president. Dr. B. F. Davis, of Denver, continues as secretary.

THE NEBRASKA CONVENTION

ON JUNE 13-15, THE NEBRASKA STOCK GROWERS' Association held its forty-fifth annual convention at Alliance, with hundreds of cattlemen present. Registrations, committee meetings, and a general open discussion took up the entire first day. Following the address of welcome on the morning of the 14th, and the responses by Henry P. Hansen, of North Platte, and Fred S. Rickard, secretary of the Omaha Live Stock Exchange, President Robert Graham, in his annual address, expressed the opinion that "nature has

made all the adjustments necessary in our industry during the past two years." Ex-Governor McKelvie, of Wood Lake, also favored a "hands off" policy. He was in sympathy with assistance by the government, but opposed its control of the live-stock business. Thomas F. Arnold, of Nenzel, delivered the next address, which dealt with western Nebraska range herds. He was followed by M. L. Baker, animal husbandman of the North Platte Experiment Station, who discussed methods and feeds used in finishing cattle. Walter E. Andersen, vice-president of the Production Credit Corporation at Omaha, spoke on "Short-Term Credit."

In the afternoon, addresses were given by D. M. Hildebrand, of Seward, who advised the ranchers to maintain their attitude of opposition to the AAA; Colonel E. B. Weatherly, of Cochran, Georgia, who chose as his subject "The Need of a National Cattlemen's Council Federated with Existing Live-Stock Associations;" C. J. Abbott, of Hyannis, who urged upon his listeners independence from collectivism under the AAA; F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, who spoke on national live-stock problems.

On the third day, E. M. Brouse, superintendent of the experiment station at Valentine, told of benefits derived from that station. He was followed by F. E. Messersmith, of Alliance, in a talk entitled, "Why I Engaged in the Occupation of Breeding Cattle;" H. J. Gramlich, of the Department of Animal Husbandry, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, whose subject was "Service Rendered by Drought Relief Agencies;" F. A. Connor, of the Farm Credit Administration, Omaha; L. N. Burch, president of the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank, Omaha; Harry R. Swanson, secretary of state, Lincoln; L. R. Maupin, brand-recorder, Lincoln; and B. H. Heide, manager of the International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago.

Harry Coffee, representative in Congress from the fifth Nebraska district, spoke to the convention through the *Alliance Times and Herald*, outlining the "Live-Stock Side of a New Adjustment Act."

An event of sadness to all those attending the meeting was the death of Albert R. Modisett, of Rushville, which occurred while he was on his way to attend the convention. Expressions of the esteem in which Mr. Modisett was held were made by many of his old associates.

Officers were re-elected as follows: Robert Graham, of Alliance, president; Henry P. Hansen, of North Platte, vice-president; F. M. Broome, of Alliance, secretary. Next year the convention will go to Chadron.

WESTERN SLOPE ASSOCIATION MEETS

RESPONDING TO THE CALL FOR THE ANNUAL meeting of the Western Slope Stock Growers' Association, hundreds of cattlemen gathered at Rifle, Colorado, on June 29 to hear discussions on problems facing their industry. After an opening address of welcome by R. F. Magor, Sr., mayor of Rifle, speeches were delivered by Chet Blake, of Crawford; James H. Phelps, representative of the Ogden Live Stock Exchange; Lynn Kemper, representative of the Denver Live Stock Exchange; A. F. Tichenor, chief inspector for the State Board of Stock Inspection Commissioners, Denver, who told of the co-operation of the Brand Inspection Board with adjoining states; F. E. Mollin, secretary of the American National Live Stock Association, who spoke on national live-stock problems; Frank Delaney, of Glenwood Springs, who reviewed the good and bad points of the Taylor Grazing Act; J. Q. Peterson, deputy grazing supervisor, Salt Lake City, who also dealt with the grazing problem; and R. M. Gow, state veterinarian, who spoke on the tuberculosis-testing question.

Resolutions adopted were as follows:

Urging administration of public domain and forest ranges to insure that preference be given present users; asking that rule basing continuance of grazing privileges on amount of hay on hand, applying to cattlemen, be also imposed on sheepmen; requesting liberal regulations that will allow disposition of stock during periods of high prices and restocking under favorable conditions; indorsing principles of Taylor Grazing Act; urging adoption of equitable system of taxation; recommending establishment of impartial boards to determine disputes in range matters; and opposing imposition of tax on cattle to defray expenses of predatory-animal work;

Opposing legislation that would prevent free marketing of live stock;

Urging increase in tariff on hides to 6 cents a pound;

Favoring shoe-labeling bill which would require marking of material from which shoes are manufactured;

Favoring continuance of embargo against importation of meats or live stock from countries infected with rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease, and protesting against ratification of proposed pact with Argentina;

Thanking Department of Agriculture for work in handling drought-relief cattle;

Indorsing Kleberg bills, which would put oils-and-fats industry on domestic basis;

Opposing legislation that would restrict competition of trucks with railroads;

Protesting against cattle program under AAA, or processing or compensating tax for any purpose;

Urging that canned beef be plainly labeled to show country of origin;

Demanding that no reductions in live-stock tariffs be made in reciprocal trade negotiations;

Urging re-establishment of term forest-grazing permits, and suggesting that, where reductions are necessary, they be made not later than October of each year, so that there may be ample time to decrease herds accordingly;

Asking that State Land Office cancel homestead entries granted through favoritism or fraud;

Urging that \$5,000 recently appropriated by State Legislature for tuberculosis work be made available immediately;

Protesting against application of sales tax on feed bought by range producers;

Indorsing policies of Advisory Council of Live Stock Association in Northwestern Colorado, which favor federal land-buying program for Colorado and the development of irrigation projects in northwestern part of state.

Officers were chosen as follows: R. F. Magor, Jr., of Rifle, president; Frank Delaney, of Glenwood Springs, vice-president; and E. H. Stewart, of Mesa, secretary-treasurer.

LOCAL OREGON ASSOCIATION FORMED

AT A RECENT MEETING IN FOSSIL, OREGON, THE Wheeler-Gilliam Stock Growers' Association was created, to function under the guidance of the following officers: W. H. Steiwer, of Fossil, president; C. K. Barker, of Condon, vice-president; and Russell McKinnon, of Condon, secretary. The executive committee is composed of Keys Donnelly, of Service Creek; Fred Blann, of Mitchell; Joseph Carsner, of Spray; J. W. Edwards, of Fossil; and John Monahan, of Condon.

NORTH PARK STOCK GROWERS' MEETING

ON JUNE 22 THE NORTH PARK STOCK GROWERS' Association held its annual meeting at Walden, Colorado. Fifty cattle-raisers were on hand to hear the speakers, who included F. W. Beier, of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, Denver; B. F. Davis, secretary of the Colorado Stock Growers' and Feeders' Association, Denver; and Lynn Kemper, representative of the Denver Live Stock Exchange.

Resolutions adopted included the following:

Urging rigid enforcement of state brand inspection and theft laws;

Suggesting appointment of J. H. Dickens, of Walden, on State Board of Live Stock Commissioners;

Condemning proposed pact with Argentina which would permit entrance of meat from that country;

Indorsing Kleberg bills now before Congress, which would place oleomargarine industry on domestic basis.

ARIZONA'S LIVE-STOCK DAY

IN ORDER TO BRING ABOUT A GREATER DEGREE OF co-ordination between grower, feeder, packer, and retailer, to emphasize to the meat-consuming public the importance of the live-stock business as a basic industry of Arizona, and to call attention to the manner in which that industry has kept step with modern trends, Arizona has adopted an official Live-Stock Day—June 26.

An elaborate program, with the Tovrea Packing Company acting as host, was presented on that date in Phoenix this year. It featured an extensive meat show, a barbecue, a demonstration of the United States meat-grading service, a meat-cutting demonstration, and several speakers. Wide interest was displayed in these activities.

MEAT BOARD ELECTS OFFICERS

AT THE RECENT ANNUAL MEETING OF THE National Live Stock and Meat Board in Chicago, Thomas E. Wilson, packer, of Chicago, who has been serving as president of the board since the death of Charles D. Carey, was elected to that position. Dan Hildebrand, of Seward, Nebraska, was chosen vice-president, and R. C. Pollock was reappointed secretary and manager. Everett C. Brown, of Chicago, is the treasurer.

The annual report, submitted by Mr. Pollock, set forth the continued growth and development of the board's activities in popularizing meat.

NEW LIVE-STOCK PUBLICATION

THE NEVADA STATE CATTLE ASSOCIATION, RECENTLY ORGANIZED to serve the cattle interests of Nevada, is publishing a periodical, issued for the information of its members, called the *Official Bulletin*, the first issue of which appeared on June 26. The office of publication is at Elko. THE PRODUCER welcomes this new arrival in the field of live-stock journals, and extends its best wishes for its success.

THE CALENDAR

July 30-August 1, 1935—Annual Convention of Wyoming Wool Growers' Association, Laramie, Wyo.
 August 27-28, 1935—National Ram Sale, Salt Lake City, Utah.
 October 5-12, 1935—Pacific International Live Stock Exposition, Portland, Ore.
 October 19-26, 1935—American Royal Live Stock Show, Kansas City, Mo.
 October 27-November 2, 1935—Ak-Sar-Ben Live Stock Show, Omaha, Neb.
 November 11-15, 1935—Kansas National Live Stock Show, Wichita, Kan.
 November 21-22, 1935—Annual Convention of California Wool Growers' Association, San Francisco, Cal.
 November 30-December 7, 1935—International Live Stock Exposition, Chicago, Ill.
 November 30-December 7, 1935—Great Western Live Stock Show, Los Angeles, Cal.
 December 13-14, 1935—Annual Convention of California Cattlemen's Association, San Francisco, Cal.
 JANUARY 7-10, 1936—ANNUAL CONVENTION OF AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION, PHOENIX, ARIZ.
 January 11-18, 1936—National Western Stock Show, Denver, Colo.

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

IN THE INTEREST OF THE

LIVE STOCK INDUSTRY OF THE UNITED STATES

BY THE

AMERICAN NATIONAL LIVE STOCK ASSOCIATION
PUBLISHING COMPANY

Subscription: One Year, \$1; Three Years, \$2.75; Six Years, \$5
Advertising Rates on Request

515 COOPER BUILDING, DENVER, COLORADO

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Volume XVII

JULY, 1935

Number 2

THE ARGENTINE SANITARY CONVENTION

FOR MANY YEARS THIS COUNTRY HAS maintained a strict embargo against imports of cattle, sheep, other domesticated ruminants, or swine, and of fresh, chilled, or frozen beef, veal, mutton, lamb, or pork, from any country infected with rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease. It was enforced rigorously against South American countries, where foot-and-mouth disease has long been firmly established, and where little or no effort is made to stamp it out.

Prior to the enactment of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, in 1930, the embargo was imposed under the general regulatory powers of the Bureau of Animal Industry, with the Secretary of Agriculture possessing the authority to terminate it at will. Constant pressure was brought to bear upon that official, particularly in behalf of the Argentine, which country has long sought access to our markets for its surplus animal products. "Good-will" delegations visited the United States, enlisting the support of the

State Department—apparently always an easy victim of the wiles of foreign diplomats. Efforts were made to bestow favors upon prominent officials of the Department of Agriculture. But all this was in vain, due largely to the firm stand taken by Dr. John R. Mohler, chief of the Bureau of Animal Industry, against using the animal health of this country as a diplomatic stake in seeking to better relations between the United States and Argentina.

As a consequence of this agitation, and to give the restrictions the force of law, a clause was inserted in the Smoot-Hawley tariff bill making it mandatory for the Secretary of Agriculture to certify to the Secretary of the Treasury whenever foot-and-mouth disease is known to exist in any foreign country, whereupon the Secretary of the Treasury must prohibit imports of the character listed above until the Secretary of Agriculture again certifies to him that the disease no longer exists. This removed the question of such a quarantine from the arbitrary power of the Secretary of Agriculture, except so far as determination of disease conditions is concerned, relieved him of constant pressure, of both a political and a diplomatic nature, and gave our live-stock industry the protection which is its inalienable right.

That these precautions were well taken, and that they were not merely an additional tariff, as has often been charged by those who stand to benefit by gaining access to our markets, is clearly evidenced by the fact that, despite the vigilance of the Bureau of Animal Industry, there have been eight outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease in this country since the year 1900. In nearly every instance the origin of the disease has been traced to South America. Two or three of the outbreaks threatened to get beyond control. Thousands upon thousands of cattle and other domestic animals were slaughtered in order to check it. Many choice herds of both beef and dairy types were entirely wiped out. The disease spread to deer on western ranges, adding tremendously to the difficulties of extermination. The entire cost of combating the eight outbreaks is estimated to have exceeded \$200,000,000.

In view of the above facts, it is amazing to learn that the Department of State has negotiated a sanitary convention with the Argentine, permitting imports of live-stock products from zones of that country declared to be free of foot-and-mouth disease, and that it has been sent to the Senate for ratification. When the Smoot-Hawley tariff bill was passed, an attempt was made to have the phrase "any foreign country" interpreted as applying to a *section of a country*—as, for instance, Patagonia in the Argentine. This new effort is a device to legalize what was then sought by trickery. It is stated that great things can be accomplished for the United States by

the exportation of apples to the Argentine. It would appear that our diplomatic officials are determined to maintain their present practically perfect record of being suckers at the game of international politics.

The fact that the present tariff of six cents a pound would provide no protection to the domestic industry if the embargo were removed is entirely beside the point. The proposed treaty should be fought entirely on its merits. There should be no experimentation with the animal health of this country for the sake of a few paltry dollars gained in exports of apples, or what not. There can be no guarantees given that Patagonia, or any other section of the Argentine, is free of foot-and-mouth disease. Just as surely as the bars are lowered at any point will this country again have to fight to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease from our bovine herds. There is grave danger even today of having the disease brought in, as the result of the tremendous increase in imports of agricultural products from Argentina, due to the combined effect of the AAA crop-control program and the drought.

The live-stock industry urges that Secretary Wallace and Dr. Mohler should lead the fight to prevent ratification of this unholy pact. It counts upon every senator interested in the live-stock industry, not only to vote "No" when the time comes, but to exert his best efforts to persuade other senators, not so directly concerned or so well informed, to join in unanimously condemning a treaty which has so little to recommend it.

SUBSIDIZING THE FISH INDUSTRY

WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE working overtime to break down the tariffs and quarantine regulations which have been established for the protection of the live-stock industry against economic and sanitary ills, the recent announcement that the Department of Commerce has taken the fisherman under its wing, and appointed an advisory council of twenty businessmen for its guidance, would seem to make a sort of stepchild out of the live-stock industry, despite its position as the leader in the entire agricultural group.

It is understood that this advisory council has recommended changing Thanksgiving Day from Thursday to Tuesday, to fall in line with the recent attempt to popularize a second fish day each week; that \$500,000 of relief funds be allocated to promote the more orderly marketing of fish products, and that another \$100,000 be set aside for the establishment of an extension service to instruct housewives in the proper methods of handling and cooking fish.

In line with the latter suggestion, Congressman Bland, of Virginia, has introduced a bill (H.R. 8055)

calling for the establishment of an economic research section, a market-news service, and an extension service—all in the Bureau of Fisheries.

Of all the fishy business that has been going on in Washington, this would seem to take the cake. One cannot blame the Fish and Sea Food Institute of the United States for taking advantage of the golden opportunity provided for it by the AAA hog program, which has curtailed pork supplies and advanced prices so sharply that pork is no longer the "poor man's meat." For instance, choice steer beef is today considerably under the price of pork loins. Some of the "fish" releases, however, have not confined themselves at all to the facts as to the relative price situation.

But to have a major department of the federal government place itself at the disposal of an industry whose investment is a fishing-pole and a can of bait, and whose producing territory is the deep blue sea, thus subsidizing competition to the Department of Agriculture in its attempt to restore purchasing power in an industry which supports 30,000,000 people, is another of the chapters out of the New Deal book which fails to make sense.

Can one imagine the fishy odors that will emanate from the kitchen when Thanksgiving Day is changed to Tuesday, the glow of satisfaction that will spread over the faces of our colored folks as they substitute sardines for "poke chops," or the good old English cheer that will be acquired from having baked barracuda grace the Christmas table in place of "the roast beef of old England"?

There is a place for everything in this universe of ours; and that includes a sense of proportion, in which some of the bureaucrats in Washington seem to be sadly lacking. Of course, a few votes may be gained by pulling chestnuts out of the fire for the fishing industry, but for every such vote gained there will be a hundred lost as the live-stock producers react to the constant efforts now being made to promote the welfare of competitors whose source of supply is the ocean or some foreign country. You can call it "fishy business" or "monkey business," just as you like; but it is time to stop it, and to adopt a policy of American markets for American producers, to the full extent of their ability to supply them.

THE KLEBERG BILLS

FOR SEVERAL YEARS CONGRESSMAN Kleberg, of Texas, has fought almost a lone fight in Congress to get a square deal for the producers of domestic fats and oils in the margarine trade of this country. Recently hearings were held before the House Committee on Agriculture on his bills, H.R. 5586 and 5587, the former of which would

require a minimum fat-content of 80 per cent in all margarine manufactured, and the latter providing for a tax of ten cents a pound on all margarine not manufactured 100 per cent from domestic fats and oils.

Both of these bills merit the support of every producer of fats and oils in the United States. They would place the margarine industry on a domestic-fat basis, lift millions of pounds of choice edible fats from the soap-tank to their proper field of use, and establish a high plane for the conduct of the industry as a whole.

Therefore it is discouraging to record the fact that Washington lobbyists for the dairy industry, who have for years held their jobs at fat salaries by constantly exhorting their supporters to fight the oleomargarine industry, have cast their lot with the foreign producers of coconut oil, and are fighting the Kleberg ten-cent tax bill, urging, instead, a tax of five cents a pound on all margarine, regardless of the materials of which it is made.

The selfish attitude thus taken will receive little support. In the past it has been possible for the dairy lobbyists to shield their true aim—the total elimination of margarine from the food supply of this country—by cleverly attacking the industry on the ground that its raw materials were mostly of foreign origin. Now it is somewhat disconcerting to see a liaison between this group and the foreign producer in order to fight the domestic producer. They fully realize that the margarine industry, placed upon a domestic-fat basis, is just as legitimate, and just as much entitled to a place in our business scheme, as the butter industry. The margarine industry has a large clientele in the millions of people of low purchasing power who cannot afford to buy butter. It is vicious to suggest that a tax of five cents a pound should be placed on a food which is so essential to these millions. No other domestic producer has ever sought to protect himself at the expense of other farmers and live-stock producers.

It is to be hoped that the committee will immediately disapprove this selfish effort, and report out the Kleberg tax bill for the benefit and protection of all producers of domestic fats and oils.

OUR ALLIANCE OF INTEREST

OUR READERS HAVE NOTICED IN THE past several issues of THE PRODUCER the multiplicity of reports of both state and local live-stock conventions. Fifty sets of resolutions adopted by live-stock organizations in all parts of the West have been published. Noting the many instances of similarity, one might ask the reason for such detailed presentation. The answer is that these resolutions

concretely express the hopes and desires of the western cattleman, and are a guide for the American National Live Stock Association in its national work for the industry.

The season of conventions is now drawing to a close. We can therefore review the expressions made, and find out just where the cattleman stands in the midst of all the problems of the day.

Running through the list, we find that many of the resolutions published deal with purely local matters. Some are expressions that pertain only to state affairs. From the whole, however, we find these definite expressions on important national problems:

Opposition to a cattle program under the AAA, or to a processing tax on cattle;

Opposition to any legislation intended to restrict methods of marketing live stock;

Protest against any decrease in tariffs on cattle or their products in trade negotiations with foreign countries;

Demand for continuance of an embargo against importation of meats from countries where rinderpest or foot-and-mouth disease prevails;

Opposition to enactment of legislation which would lessen competition of trucks with railroads;

Request for increase of tariff on hides;

Recommendation of a uniform system of grading and stamping of beef;

Approval of legislation which would place the oleomargarine industry on a domestic-fat basis;

Request for restoration of ten-year forest grazing permits.

While the list does not run the gamut of all live-stock problems, it does present the nine most important matters facing the industry today. Can there be any doubt, with the entire range cattle country at one on these points, that the American National Live Stock Association speaks with full authority on its behalf? Can any cattleman in the West, individually or through his local association, fail to support the American National, with that list of important matters demanding attention? United in thought, only unity in action, with ample finances available, can assure a satisfactory outcome.

Albert R. Modisett

WE LEARN WITH DEEP REGRET OF THE DEATH, on June 3, of Albert R. Modisett, prominent cattleman of Rushville, Nebraska, at the Reid Memorial Hospital in Richmond, Indiana. Death resulted from injuries received when his automobile was struck by a Pennsylvania train at a crossing near Eaton, Ohio. His brother, A. M. Modisett, riding with him, was not seriously hurt.

Mr. Modisett was born in West Virginia seventy-four years ago. Starting his live-stock career with a job of trailing cattle from Texas to Wyoming, in 1886 he settled on a ranch near Rushville, and through the gradual purchase of land in this region acquired holdings of sixty sections.

He took a keen interest in both state and national live-stock affairs. Until recently he was vice-president of the

Nebraska Stock Growers' Association and of the American National Live Stock Association. He had been a member of the Executive Committee of the latter organization for many years, and was one of its staunchest supporters.

The death of this kind and popular ranchman is a distinct loss to the western cattle industry. He leaves surviving him a sister, Mrs. Rose Corder, who has been his constant companion at the Rushville ranch; another sister, Mrs. Eva Glasscock, and his brother.

R. A. Broadhurst

R. A. BROADHURST, DEPUTY INSPECTOR OF BRANDS and marks for Utah, died at his home in Salt Lake City on June 29. For only a brief period Mr. Broadhurst had held the position of secretary of the Utah Cattle and Horse Raisers' Association, having succeeded Thomas Redmond, who passed away on June 4, 1935.

PIG CROP REPORT

A DECREASE OF 20 PER CENT IN THE SPRING PIG crop of 1935 from the very small crop of 1934, a prospective increase of 19 per cent in the number of sows to farrow in the fall season of 1935 over those farrowing in the fall of 1934, a decrease of 10 per cent in total farrowings during 1935 from the total of 1934, and a marked reduction in the number of hogs over six months old from a year earlier, are shown by the June 1 pig-crop report of the Department of Agriculture.

The number of pigs saved in the spring season of 1935 (December 1, 1934, to June 1, 1935) is estimated at 30,402,000 head. This is a decrease of 19.6 per cent, or 7,405,000, from the number saved in the spring of 1934, and a decrease of 40 per cent, or 20,814,000, from the average number saved in the springs of 1932 and 1933. The decrease in the number of sows that farrowed in the spring season of 1935 was 22.4 per cent. This decrease is somewhat larger than was forecast in the December, 1934, pig report, which showed a reduction of 17 per cent. The number of pigs saved per litter in the spring season of this year was larger than in 1934, being 6.05, compared with 5.84.

The number of sows to farrow in the fall season of 1935 (June 1 to December 1) is estimated at 3,175,000 head. This is an increase of 19.5 per cent over the very small number farrowed in the fall of 1934, but is 37 per cent below the average of 1932 and 1933.

If the number of sows that farrow in the fall season of this year should be about as now estimated, the total number of litters farrowed in 1935, spring and fall, will be approximately 8,196,000. This would be a decrease of 934,000 litters, or over 10 per cent from the total number farrowed in 1934, and 41 per cent below the average for 1932 and 1933. The number of pigs raised in 1935 from this number of sows would be the smallest for about forty years. Commercial hog slaughter for the marketing year October 1, 1935, to September 30, 1936, would be considerably less than that of the present marketing year, which promises to be the smallest since 1909-10 and the second smallest in thirty years.

The number of hogs over six months of age on farms June 1, 1935, as indicated by the survey reports, was much smaller than on that date in 1934 or any recent year. The indicated decreases from last year are about 30 per cent. In head, this would amount to about 8,000,000.

The further diminution in indicated hog production in 1935 from the very small production in 1934 was caused largely by the 1934 drought, together with the very unfavorable corn-

hog ratio prevailing until the end of the winter. In all the principal hog states, production in 1935 will be far below the maximum allowed under the corn-hog adjustment program.

PER CAPITA MEAT CONSUMPTION

PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF FEDERALLY INSPECTED meats and lard in the United States for the past fourteen years, exclusive of government drought-relief slaughter, is given by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics as below (in pounds):

Year	Beef and Veal	Pork*	Lamb and Mutton	Lard
1921	41.74	48.34	4.78	4.59
1922	45.21	52.87	3.94	7.16
1923	45.92	63.18	4.04	8.16
1924	46.52	63.32	4.01	8.26
1925	48.00	54.57	4.07	6.61
1926	49.16	52.54	4.27	6.73
1927	45.18	56.53	4.24	7.17
1928	40.11	61.08	4.36	7.80
1929	39.94	61.13	4.53	7.57
1930	38.77	56.17	5.27	7.27
1931	38.49	56.87	5.56	7.87
1932	35.37	58.06	5.45	8.25
1933	40.10	57.88	5.36	7.99
1934	44.03	52.23	4.93	7.29

*Includes lard.

RETAIL FOOD PRICES

THE JUNE ISSUE OF THE "CONSUMER'S GUIDE," published by the Department of Agriculture, gives city retail prices of a group of foods on May 7, 1935, compared with a year earlier, and percentages of change during the year and since May, 1929. It will be noticed that, despite the prevailing impression that foods today are at an extremely high level, especially beef, present retail prices, with the exception of those of lard and cabbage, as shown by this list, are considerably below the May, 1929, plane:

Kind of Food	May 7 1935	May 8 1934	Change in Year	Above or Below May, 1929
Milk, qt.	11.9c	11.1c	+ 7.2%	-16.2%
Butter, lb.	35.3	29.6	+19.3	-35.2
Round steak, lb.	37.0	27.2	+36.0	-17.6
Rib roast, lb.	30.9	22.0	+40.5	-16.9
Pork chops, lb.	33.5	24.3	+37.9	-11.1
Lard, lb.	18.8	10.1	+86.1	+ 2.2
Leg of lamb, lb.	27.3	27.6	- 1.1	-35.2
Hens, lb.	29.6	25.4	+16.5	-29.9
Eggs, doz.	31.6	23.3	+35.6	-18.6
White bread, lb.	8.3	8.0	+ 3.8	- 8.8
Flour, lb.	5.0	4.7	+ 6.4	0.0
Potatoes, lb.	2.1	2.7	-22.2	-22.2
Cabbage, lb.	6.7	3.7	+81.1	+28.8
Lettuce, head.	10.0	10.1	- 1.0	-----
Apples, lb.	6.5	6.9	- 5.8	-----

WOOL LICENSE HEARINGS POSTPONED

A SCHEDULED SERIES OF PUBLIC HEARINGS ON proposed licenses for dealers in wool and mohair has been postponed, the Agricultural Adjustment Administration announces. Action has been deferred until final congressional disposition of the AAA amendments establishes the status of wool and mohair under the act.

THE STOCKMEN'S EXCHANGE

OH, FOR THE GOOD OLD TIMES!

KIT CARSON, COLO., June 3, 1935.

TO THE PRODUCER:

I have been looking around the corner to see prosperity coming, but it is always going the other way. I am convinced that under the present order of things no country can gain normal prosperity. Common-sense should teach the people that much.

The Townsend old-age pension plan is considered "baloney." However, the thirty-hour work week, the prevailing wage clause, the child-labor law, and several other similar measures are far more ridiculous. The idea of people working only one day and loafing four, and expecting wages high enough for that one day to keep them in luxury a whole week, is entirely out of all reason.

The only way that this country can ever return to normal conditions is to go back to the times we had forty or fifty years ago—everybody working full time, producing something useful, and doing the work for what it was worth. This country has plenty of resources to support more than three times as many people as we have in the United States, but at present, with high cost of labor and transportation, our resources cannot be developed. It is out of the question.

In 1896 I paid stone masons \$1.50 a day and board. They were good workers and put in eleven hours a day. I had two carpenters all summer—good workmen. They worked eleven-hour days, for which I paid them \$1.50 a day and board. These men were well satisfied. We worked up three carloads of knotless twenty-foot boards that cost me \$12 per 1,000 feet, and flooring that cost \$14 per 1,000 feet, and various other lumber. Now, that had given employment to many timber-jacks and sawmill hands, and business to the railroads. We had 400 acres of hay to put up. I hired a crew of good men at 75 cents a day and board, and they put in long days, too. When the hay price got down to \$3 a ton, f. o. b. cars at our station, I told the boys it was a money-losing proposition. These men then offered to work for 60 cents a day. Section men were getting \$1.10 a day. Freight on hay was 15 cents to St. Louis and 20 cents to Chicago from the ranch, 150 miles south of Kansas City. The rate on cattle was 9 cents, and on hogs 11 cents, to Kansas City, and we got a round-trip pass with one car. The railroads were not howling about going broke; they were extending their lines and making all kinds of improvements. Our expenses at the stock-yards were only a third as high as nowadays. In the summer of 1896 I sold a bunch of good 200-pound hogs to a local shipper for \$2.75 a hundred—the lowest I have sold hogs until the present depression; but those hogs paid a profit, and we were then feeding 20-cents-per-bushel corn. The corn-grower could make as good a living as he can now at 60 cents a bushel, because cost of production was so much lower. You could hire a good farm-hand for \$14 or \$15 a month. We paid about \$1 taxes where we now pay \$15.

Everything else a farmer had to buy was in line with what he got for his stuff. Nobody went hungry. Everyone had plenty to eat, those who wanted to work could get a job at some price, and people were willing to work for what it was worth. Farmers could make ends meet, and pay taxes, interest, and other expenses. Farm foreclosures and bank failures were few and far between. Such things as government doles or relief were never dreamed of.

But we had no automobiles to keep up, and did not have to go to movies and dances more than once in two or three months. Women did not have bridge clubs and chatterbox clubs, but we did have social gatherings on Saturday evenings or Sunday afternoons—ice-cream, cake, and beer parties—and people had a good time in real neighborly fashion. The rest of the time women would stay at home and do their cooking, baking, and washing, and make and mend their clothes and their children's clothes. Farm women kept house, milked cows, fed the calves and pigs, raised chickens, attended the garden, and did their own canning of fruits and vegetables.

We talk about our high standard of living. Harry Hopkins says we have over 22,000,000 people on relief, living off the taxpayers, and there are at least that many more going hungry because they have too much pride to go begging. I do not call this a high standard of living for the country as a whole.

C. J. OSWALD.

MARKETINGS OF LIVE-STOCK CO-OPERATIVES

FORTY-FIVE CO-OPERATIVE LIVE-STOCK MARKETING associations, with a continuous existence since their organization, during the past eighteen years have handled a total of 155,862,000 head of cattle, calves, hogs, and sheep, with an aggregate value of more than \$3,000,000,000. Of the total number of animals handled, 14,959,000 were cattle, 11,849,000 calves, 97,881,000 hogs, and 31,172,000 sheep.

In number of animals and value of business handled during its existence, the Central Co-operative Association, of St. Paul, Minnesota, organized in 1921, stands first. Up to and including 1934 this association marketed 18,502,000 head of live stock, valued at \$358,342,000. Second place in volume and value is held by the Chicago Producers' Commission Association, organized in 1922. Total number of animals marketed by this association from organization through 1934 aggregated 14,865,000 head, having a value of \$303,937,000. The Producers' Live Stock Commission Association, of East St. Louis, Illinois, organized in 1922, stands third in volume and value. From organization through 1934 this association marketed a total of 12,276,000 animals, valued at \$244,005,000.

Oldest among these associations is the Farmers' Union Live Stock Commission, of Omaha, Nebraska, which opened for business April 2, 1917. From that date through 1934 it has marketed 9,601,000 head of live stock, with a total value of \$219,294,000.

WHAT THE GOVERNMENT IS DOING

AT WASHINGTON

THE TURN THAT LEGISLATIVE MATTERS OF importance to the cattle industry have taken in Congress during the past month is set out in brief below. We had expected to be able by this time to give a résumé of the doings of the closed first session of the Seventy-fourth Congress, but it looks now as though our lawgivers would have to welter through all the hot summer months in Washington.

Taylor Grazing Act.—The Senate Committee on Public Lands and Surveys has reported out H.R. 3019, which contains amendments to the Taylor Grazing Act, after considerable revision of the changes made by the House. As reported, the bill would increase the area of grazing districts from 80,000,000 to 142,000,000 acres, instead of removing the limit entirely, as proposed by the House. The Senate amendments restore to the act the McCarran clause, stricken out in the House, which makes it mandatory to renew permits if the permittee is complying with the rules, and "if denial of such renewal would impair the value of the grazing unit when such unit is pledged as security for any bona fide loan." The Senate amendments provide that 50 per cent of all money received under the act would go to the states in which the grazing districts are situated. They would also, in connection with leasing of isolated tracts, give preference to owners, homesteaders, lessees, or other regular occupants, instead of confining the leases to contiguous owners.

AAA Amendments.—So far as the licensing provisions of the AAA amendments are concerned, live stock and its products, except milk, have been definitely eliminated. A late change would allow the levying of processing taxes for purposes other than providing for adjustment in acreage or production, or for payment of rentals or benefits. The present amendments also provide for removal of surplus products from normal channels, and expansion of domestic or foreign markets. There would seem to be no reason to fear that a processing tax on cattle could be justified under present conditions. A further provision seeks to protect the money already collected through processing taxes by denying processors in cotton, wheat, tobacco, and other products the right to sue for payments made. More than a hundred suits against the processing taxes are now pending in the courts.

Reciprocal Trade Agreements.—A bill, H.R. 8526, designed to limit application of reciprocal trade agreements to countries directly involved, instead of applying the most-favored-nation principle, has been introduced by Representative Scrugham, of Nevada.

Fats and Oils.—Bills intended to remove the excise tax on foreign fats and oils, in so far as such fats and oils are used for inedible purposes, have recently been introduced. They are known as the Dockweiler-Guffey bills. In view of this proposed legislation, producers of coconut oil in the Phil-

ippine Islands are considering the processing of oil into fatty acids not fit for human consumption.

An effort is being made to cause to be reported an amendment to the Internal Revenue Act which would nullify the Treasury Department's fatty-acid ruling on the 3-cent excise tax on imported oils, by which a portion of imports is able to escape the tax. Amendments are also being sought to extend the tax to tallow, edible and inedible, cottonseed oil, and various other oils.

Corporation Loans.—An amendment to the Farm Credit Act, which allows federal land-bank loans to be made to corporations engaged in raising live stock, with some restriction as to ownership of their stock, has recently become law. The amendment was introduced by Senator Carey, of Wyoming.

Argentine Sanitary Convention.—A sanitary convention, recently negotiated with representatives of Argentina, provides for the emasculation of section 306 of the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act, which prohibits entry of cattle, sheep, swine, or fresh, chilled, or frozen products, from any country afflicted with foot-and-mouth disease. The convention has been referred to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, and, should it be favorably reported by that committee, would require a two-thirds vote of the Senate for approval. Hearings will be held, it has been learned from a reliable source, before any action is taken. No further developments are likely to take place during the present session of Congress.

Marketing Bills.—Inactivity marks the status of the Capper-Hope-Wearin marketing bills. There have been some indications that the marketing agencies, principal sponsors of these bills, may come to the conclusion that the best way to restore their markets to popular favor is to do it on the basis of service, reasonable charges, and advertising.

Shoe-Labeling Bills.—Hearings are now being requested on the shoe-labeling bills, S. 2255 and H.R. 5735, before a subcommittee in the House. A Senate subcommittee has conducted hearings, and it is expected that the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce will soon act on the report of the subcommittee.

Truck Bills.—Several weeks ago the Senate passed the Eastman bill, which would place drastic regulations on motor-vehicle transportation. Opposition to this bill from the agricultural interests was strong. A subcommittee of the House has now recommended a substitute measure—the Huddleston bill—which does not contain the obnoxious rate-making provision of the Eastman bill. Detailed report of this legislation is given in our "Traffic" section.

Fish Laws.—Representative Bland, of Virginia, has introduced a bill providing for economic studies of the fishery industry, a market-news service therefor, orderly marketing of fishery products, and establishment of an extension service in the Bureau of Fisheries for the purpose of disseminating information on the handling of fish. A Fish Advisory Com-

mittee, formed by the Department of Commerce, has recommended that Thanksgiving Day be changed from Thursday to Tuesday, in line with attempts to establish two fish days a week; also, that \$500,000 be allocated from relief funds for more orderly marketing of fish products, and \$100,000 for an extension service to instruct housewives in proper methods of handling and cooking fish. The American National Live Stock Association has protested against the use of relief funds for this purpose, and generally has placed itself in opposition to the proposed law.

Pettengill Bill.—This bill seeks to repeal the long-and-short-haul clause of section 4 of the Interstate Commerce Act, and would permit railroads to make lower rates for long hauls than for intermediate hauls on the same commodity, in order to compete with water transportation. It is believed that no action will be taken on this during the present session.

Ruling on Vegetable Margarines.—The Pure Food and Drug Administration has just issued a regulation which requires a minimum fat content of 80 per cent in all vegetable margarines. This will improve competitive conditions in the industry, as it will tend to lessen the competition of cheap foreign-oil margarines carrying a high moisture content. A full report of the ruling appears in the next column.

Surplus-Control Legislation.—On June 11, Representative Hamilton Fish, of New York, introduced the old 1928 McNary-Haugen surplus-control bill, providing for control and disposition of surplus agricultural commodities in interstate and foreign commerce.

Benefit Payments in Tariff Cuts.—Representative Stubbs, of California, has introduced a bill to provide for five-year benefit payments to producers of agricultural commodities on which tariff rates are reduced under trade agreements.

Change in Name of Departments.—The Lewis bill, S. 2665, which would change the name of the Department of the Interior to the Department of Conservation and Works, is now before Congress. It would permit transfer of the Forest Service and Biological Survey from the Department of Agriculture to the Department of the Interior.

Wagner Bill.—The Wagner-Connery labor-disputes bill has passed Congress. It is designed to protect workers in organizing and bargaining collectively. The bill declares certain activities of employers as "unfair labor practices," and creates a National Labor Relations Board to prevent such practices.

Social Insurance.—Providing for old-age pensions by the federal government, which will match state money, and further matching of state funds by federal money for unemployment-relief purposes, and various other causes, the social insurance bill, H.R. 7260, having passed the House on April 19, received the approval of the Senate on June 19.

INDEMNITY PAYMENTS INCREASED

AN INCREASE OF \$5 IN THE MAXIMUM FEDERAL indemnity payment that may be made for grade dairy and beef cattle reacting to the official tests for tuberculosis or Bang's disease, bringing the indemnity up to \$25, is announced by the Department of Agriculture.

The increase is made partly because of higher cattle values, and partly because of more rigid sanitary requirements, involving expense to cattle-owners in controlling Bang's disease and complying with the designated means of preventing further infection. The higher indemnity applies to reactors to either test made in the course of regular testing or that

authorized by emergency legislation. Although \$25 is the new maximum amount, actual payment is governed, as heretofore, by the appraised value of the animal. In the case of purebred cattle, the maximum indemnity of \$50 remains unchanged.

During the period of nearly a year since the Bang's disease project began, co-operating veterinarians have tested more than 2,572,000 cattle for this malady in forty-six states. Of this number, more than 314,600 cattle, or about 12 per cent, reacted to the test and were removed for slaughter. In the testing of cattle for tuberculosis during the same period, more than 18,786,000 animals were tested in forty-eight states and in Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Of this number, about 334,500—slightly less than 1.8 per cent—were reactors. In the case of both Bang's disease and tuberculosis, most of the cattle condemned and slaughtered were grade animals.

OLEOMARGARINE FAT-CONTENT RULING

NOTICE WAS GIVEN ON JUNE 8 BY THE CHIEF of the Food and Drug Administration to packers of vegetable margarine that, should their vegetable product contain less than 80 per cent of fat, it will be regarded as adulterated within the meaning of the Federal Foods and Drugs Act, and that the interstate shipment of this type of margarine containing less than 80 per cent fat will be subject to action under the law.

For many years the Bureau of Animal Industry, which has complete supervision over any product containing animal fat, has required that all margarine manufactured wholly or in part from animal fats should contain a minimum fat content of 80 per cent. The above regulation of the Food and Drug Administration, therefore, simply puts the entire margarine industry upon the same basis, and will prevent unfair competition against animal-fat product on the part of vegetable-oil manufacturers. It has been found that a coconut-oil margarine can be made with as much as 30 per cent moisture, which is much more than any domestic vegetable oil or animal fat will carry. Consequently it has been possible for unscrupulous manufacturers to put out product with a high moisture content, to the detriment, in particular, of purchasers of the product, and, in fact, of the entire industry. Inasmuch as butter is also required to contain 80 per cent fat, purchasers of any table-spread are now assured of a high standard of quality.

TUBERCULOSIS AGREEMENT WITH CANADA

RECOGNIZING THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE CANADIAN dairymen, farmers, and officials in eradicating tuberculosis among cattle, the United States, after August 1, 1935, will admit cattle from modified accredited areas in Canada without further tuberculin-testing, under an order issued by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

The United States has previously been admitting cattle from accredited herds in Canada without further test, and the new order is an extension of the procedure to areas in which all cattle have been tuberculin-tested and in which the extent of the disease has been found to be less than one-half of 1 per cent.

The procedure places the movement of cattle across the border on essentially the same basis as the movement of cattle among the states. The two countries have been working to eradicate tuberculosis among cattle along virtually identical lines. As a safeguard against the introduction of other communicable diseases, the customary procedure of requiring a general health certificate is being continued.

OUR TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION

BY CHARLES E. BLAINE

Traffic Counsel, American National Live Stock Association

Federal Motor-Carrier Regulation

THE SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON Interstate and Foreign Commerce, following protracted hearings on the Eastman bill (H.R. 5262) to regulate motor carriers in interstate and foreign commerce, rejected the Eastman bill, and in lieu thereof drafted a bill called the Huddleston bill, which is a substantial modification.

The Huddleston bill exempts from regulation motor vehicles carrying live stock or unprocessed agricultural products; also special operations, such as school buses, taxicabs, etc. According to information deemed reliable, the bill provides for the regulation of motor carriers by a division of highway transportation of the Interstate Commerce Commission, to be composed of three members.

Only permits, as distinguished from certificates of public convenience and necessity, would be required for operation of motor vehicles in interstate commerce for compensation, directly or indirectly. With respect to permits, the bill provides that they shall be issued by the commission if it appears that the applicant "is fit, willing, and able to perform the service, and to conform to the provisions of this part and the lawful requirements, rules, and regulations of the commission thereunder; otherwise such application should be denied." Motor carriers would be required to give evidence of financial responsibility to meet judgments for personal injuries and loss and damage of property, in order to obtain permits to operate.

The bill provides for regulation of fares of passenger carriers, but not of property carriers. Passenger carriers would file their tariffs with the commission, and adhere to the fares named therein unless authorized by the commission to change them on other than thirty days' notice. Suspension of the passenger fares and the fixing of maximum or minimum fares by the commission after hearing are provided for. A "property carrier" is defined as including any person transporting the property of others by motor vehicle for compensation, direct or indirect. Such carriers, under the bill, would not be subject to regulation as to rates and charges. They would be required only to obtain permits to operate, and be subject to the general provisions above indicated. The commission would have authority to establish regulations and reasonable requirements with respect to qualifications, minimum hours of service of employees, and safety of operation and equipment of both passenger and property motor carriers. Security issues by motor carriers in amount of more than \$500,000 would be subject to the jurisdiction of the commission.

From the foregoing it will be observed that the Huddleston bill does not include the highly objectionable features of the Eastman bill, against which our opposition was directed in hearings before the Senate and House committees—i.e., certificates of public convenience and necessity, and the rate-making sections.

As shown in the March issue of the AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER, at pages 25 to 27, inclusive, our opposition to the certificate of public convenience and necessity provision of the Eastman bill was grounded upon the premise that the provision was not in the public interest, but, on the contrary, if enacted into law would result in restoring to the rail lines the virtual monopoly over all transportation, and, instead of securing lower rates, or even retaining the present rate, the public would be called upon to pay increased rates for both rail and motor-vehicle transportation.

Our views in this respect were based upon the undisputed fact that certain interests have been engaged in either purchasing outright, or taking options on, numerous motor carriers, with the view of selling them to the railroads if the Eastman bill is enacted into law. Under the terms of the Eastman bill, it would be impossible for an independent person to secure a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the commission, authorizing him to operate motor vehicles in competition with a line owned or operated by the railroads over the same route. Thus, as soon as the railroads could purchase the existing motor carriers, they would secure a monopoly of not only rail but motor transportation as well. It is gratifying that the subcommittee has not included this iniquitous provision in the Huddleston bill.

The objections voiced by us to the rate-making sections of the Eastman bill were predicated on the fact that, if enacted into law, they would result, no doubt, in the motor-vehicle rates being increased to the levels of the higher rail charges. As shown by our testimony on intrastate traffic, out of the thirty-three states which exercise rate-making authority such as that contained in the Eastman bill, twenty-six admitted that they either hold rail rates as *minimum* or consider them when prescribing motor-truck rates. Consequently, we there expressed our views that the rate-making sections of the Eastman bill were premature, and that they would, if enacted into law, (1) increase motor-carrier rates to the levels of the higher rail rates, and thus perpetuate the present destructive practice of the railroads making their rates on the basis of what they think the traffic can or should bear, as distinguished from the cost of the service; and (2) indefinitely postpone, if not forever prevent, the railroads from (a) consolidating their properties; (b) pooling their traffic so as to eliminate the huge operating wastes now being incurred by them at the expense of the public; and (c) revamping their financial structure, and curing the many other and prevailing serious ills stressed by the Federal Co-ordinator of Transportation.

Hence we recommended to the committee that, for the time being at least, the rates of property carriers be not made subject to regulation. The subcommittee of the House, apparently recognizing the merit of our views, has not included the rate-making sections of the Eastman bill with respect to property carriers in the Huddleston bill.

If the Huddleston bill, which, in our opinion, is in the interest of the public as a whole, becomes the law, it will be an incentive for the commission, the Federal Co-ordinator, and the

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railroads to complete the cost-finding in rail transportation ordered by section 13 of the Emergency Railroad Transportation Act, 1933, and, following which, rates of the rail lines should be adjusted with respect to their costs. It would likewise be an incentive for the commission and the motor carriers to ascertain and establish cost-finding in motor transportation, and the establishment of their rates with respect to such costs.

Such action by the rail and motor carriers would unquestionably result in much good to the shipping public. In fact, it would furnish a definite yardstick as to the inherent economic efficiency of both sets of carriers. No form of transportation should object to its charges being established with respect to its cost of performing the service. The inherent economic efficiency is demonstrated ultimately in relative costs of transportation. Therefore, obviously, the cost of each form of transportation should be the yardstick for the establishment of its rates. The use of such yardstick gives each form of transportation an incentive to make further economies and reductions in costs and improvements in its service, so as to increase the scope of its service to the public.

It is recommended that the shippers immediately write or wire their representatives in Congress to approve the Huddleston bill in its present form, and defeat the Eastman bill which passed the Senate.

With respect to the passage of the Eastman bill by the Senate, the American National Live Stock Association, in conjunction with the National Wool Growers' Association, the National Grange, the American Association of Creamery Butter Manufacturers, the National Dairy Union, the National Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation, the American Farm Bureau Federation, and the American Cotton Co-operative Association, on June 14 addressed a statement to the House committee, taking an unqualified stand against the enactment of the bill into law.

Bills to Repeal Section 4

Hearings on the proposed repeal of the long-and-short-haul clause of section 4 of the Interstate Commerce Act before a subcommittee of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, headed by Representative Pettengill, of Indiana, were opened January 5 and were concluded January 26, 1935. A long line of witnesses appeared and adduced testimony for the railroads and their allies, supporting the proposed repeal of the section. Likewise innumerable witnesses representing substantially all parts of the nation appeared and presented testimony in opposition to repeal.

The American National Live Stock Association was not represented in person by any of its officials, but, upon instructions from the Executive Committee, this department prepared a statement in opposition to the proposed bills that would repeal the section, which statement was presented by John F. Shaughnessy, president of the Intermediate Rate Association, along with his testimony, on June 21.

It is recommended that shippers who feel that all localities and shippers should bear their fair share of the transportation burden, measured by the transportation performed, immediately write or wire their representatives in Congress in opposition to the Pettengill and Dirksen bills (H.R. 3263 and 3610) proposing to repeal the long-and-short-haul clause of section 4.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS

AFURTHER SLIGHT DECLINE IN INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION was noted in May, and factory employment and pay-rolls also showed a decrease, according to the *Monthly Review* issued by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City. Residential construction continued above last year's level.

Output of steel mills declined somewhat in May and the first three weeks of June—a usual seasonal drop. Production of automobiles showed a marked decrease in May, reflecting, in part, the effects of a strike. Cotton mills showed little change in activity, while woolen mills further increased production, contrary to the seasonal tendency. Production of shoes declined seasonally. Output of coal showed a marked increase during May and early June. Factory employment and pay-rolls were reported to have decreased in the automobile, radio, lumber, clothing, cotton, silk, and shoe industries; many other lines reported no change. Freight car-loadings increased in May by about the usual seasonal amount.

The general level of wholesale prices had declined slightly by June 15. Grain prices decreased considerably during May and the first half of June. Cotton prices, after a sharp decline at the end of May and a subsequent increase, also were lower in the middle of June than at the beginning of May.

HOG SLAUGHTER TO CONTINUE SMALL

FEWER HOGS WILL BE SLAUGHTERED THIS SUMMER in the United States than for many years, according to the current report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics on world hog and pork prospects.

Stocks of pork on June 1, the report shows, were the smallest for that date in twenty years, and stocks of lard the smallest in twelve years. Inspected slaughter in May was the smallest for that month in more than thirty-five years.

United States exports of hog products have been sharply reduced since the middle of 1934. In view of the marked decrease in domestic hog slaughter, exports of pork and lard are likely to continue at a low level during the remainder of 1935.

Corn Belt Feeders Coming West Early in August

ASPECIAL train carrying Corn Belt feeders will leave Chicago on August 3 for a trip through the range country in the Denver and Salt Lake City territory.

The party will be the guests of F. E. Hanks, manager of the Intermountain Live Stock Marketing Association, Denver, and I. H. Jacob, manager of the Producers' Live Stock Marketing Association, Salt Lake City.

There will be a stop at Emporia, Kansas, with a day spent in the Blue Stem country, where the Texas Live Stock Marketing Association and the Oklahoma Live Stock Marketing Association, together with the Kansas City Producers, will be hosts.

The trip will be for the purpose of acquainting stockmen in the two great branches of this industry more fully with their respective lines of work.

National Live Stock Marketing Association

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Distemper	Red Water Fever
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THE MARKETS

LIVE-STOCK MARKET IN JUNE

BY JAMES E. POOLE

CHICAGO, ILL., July 1, 1935.

SEMI-DEMORALIZATION IN BOTH MAJOR BRANCHES of the live-stock trade may be attributed to meat-price agitation in consuming circles. The New York kosher row, attended with violence, wore itself out late in June, but was so extensively advertised by radio gabfest, news-reel exploitation, and newspaper scare-heads as to leave a bad taste in the consumer's mouth. Futile delegations to Washington merely aggravated the situation, as no remedy is available. As live-stock prices crashed, wholesale cost was whittled down; but the inevitable "lag" developed, consumers not getting prompt relief. Cattle prices declined anywhere from \$1 to \$4 per cwt.; those of hogs, 75 cents to \$1; and, from the high point, lambs showed an extreme depreciation of \$2 per cwt., recovering about half of it on the usual pre-Fourth of July spurt.

Consumers' Protest Responsible for June Slump

At these declines, feeders should be in stronger strategic position, especially when deficient tonnage is considered. Top cattle broke from \$16.25 early in May to \$12.75 late in June, the gauge being the standard Attebury drove from Nebraska. Popular clamor for "something cheap" in consumer circles gave bovine trash a decided advantage, as steers under \$9 declined merely 50 to 75 cents. From a high at \$10.25, top hogs dropped to \$9.50. The top on lambs declined from \$10 to \$8.50. Back of it all, and mainly responsible, was the popular outbreak adverse to rising cost of all animal product, of which sporadic buying strikes were merely surface eruptions.

Little Steers Popular

Toward the end of June the old crop of winter-fed cattle ran out, few bullocks exceeding 1,200 pounds reporting even at Chicago. This was a fortunate circumstance, as no considerable quantity of heavy beef could have been absorbed. The winter crop was followed by a run of yearlings, many of them lacking finish, as gain cost was maintained by 80- to 90-cent corn. These little cattle, weighing 1,000 pounds down, were set back to \$9 to \$10.50, mostly in mixed steer and heifer lots. Popularity was always with steers costing \$9 down, an army of little southern "yellow-hammers" finding a warm reception from killers in a range of \$5 to \$7 per cwt., according to weight and condition. This delegation was promptly cleared daily, while good, corn-fed cattle frequently went to sleep at the market for several days in succession, some going over the week-end.

Feeders Making Money Even after Break

At the inception of July, few corn-fed steers were eligible to \$12 or better, \$11 stopping yearlings unless they were outstanding and carried weight. Feeders who cashed during the boom period indulged in self-congratulation; those who over-stayed a good market took the situation philosophically, as most of them still had substantial margins over their first cost.

Heifers Hold up Well

Heifers were in a specialty class, selling in the \$9 to \$10.25 range even at the bottom of the break, and reacting promptly on short runs. Cow trade went into a rut, at declines of 50 to 75 cents, lower grades feeling competition from tuberculosis and Bang's disease reactors.

Sausage Boom Supports Low-Grade Cows

But for the southern delegation, beef tonnage in June would have been substantially lighter. Speculators spread a net all over the region south of the Ohio River, and have probably "cleaned" that area of low-grade bovine property. Booming the sausage industry absorbed this product readily and was a supporting influence in the case of low-grade cows selling from \$4 down.

Native Stockers Scarce

Stock cattle lost 75 cents to \$1 per cwt. Late in June a delegation of Texas calves reached Chicago, to meet a swarm of anxious Corn Belters who paid anywhere from \$8.50 to \$9.25 for steers and \$7 to \$7.85 for heifers. So-called native stockers all but disappeared, owing to luxuriant pastures.

Hog Price Drops Despite Light Supply

Despite the lightest receipts in a quarter of a century, the hog market has been under pressure. Chicago's top dropped from \$10.25 to \$9.50 during May, from which there was a 25-cent recovery on the last round. Oppressed by processing taxes, many packers on a restricted scale quit killing hogs, seeking the courts for relief and securing temporary restraining injunctions. These suits attacking processing-tax validity have multiplied, although none of the big packers have participated, as they are going along with the AAA, even to the extent of forbidding their employees to discuss the topic. Some of these suits are based on the contention that a tax on intrastate business is unconstitutional; others, on the ground that Congress is without power to delegate its taxing prerogative to the Secretary of Agriculture. In every instance, restitution of taxes already paid is sought. To meet the emergency of an adverse Supreme Court decision, the AAA proposes to have Congress "freeze" the tax; also to prohibit recovery suits. The whole program is in much the same muddle as a bowl of scrambled eggs. Slaughter has diminished to a volume that threatens a semi-famine of the "poor man's meat." Daily receipts around the seven-major-market circle have been running 40 to 60 per cent in numbers below the corresponding period of 1934, although weights have ruled considerably higher. Owing to abnormal, if not unprecedented, scarcity of light hogs at this season, weights below 230 pounds are getting substantial premiums. Contrariwise, heavy hogs have been penalized 50 to 75 cent per cwt., the spread between heavy packing sows and light shipping hogs reaching \$2 per cwt., for which no precedent can be found in the records. Kill-



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ers met the problem of buying medium and inferior-quality hogs by penalizing them 50 cents to \$1 per cwt., as an illogical processing tax forced them to pay the same impost on quality as on trash. In this shuffle the grower got the short end of the stick. Late in June, average cost at Chicago dropped below \$9, although it was flirting with \$10 a few weeks previously, the top dropping from \$10.25 to \$9.50.

Pig Elimination Program Was Blunder

Activity of light hogs is primarily attributable to short farrowing last fall; secondly, to elimination of surplus spring pigs in excess of individual allotments, to comply with provisions of corn-hog contracts. This was an obvious blunder, as in a majority of cases they could have been profitably matured.

Official Pig Supply Figures Astounding

The June pig-supply prospectus issued by Washington late in the month confirms packer and private tabulations. The figures are somewhat startling. Giving them credence, it means continued shortage of the "poor man's meat." Pigs farrowed up to June 1—the spring crop—were 20 per cent fewer than last year, but there is a prospective increase of 19 per cent in fall farrowing, although this is in comparison with the fall farrowing of 1934, which was the lightest for twenty-five years, so that it offers scant relief. On June 1, hogs on farms over six months old—the prospective summer and fall supply—were 30 per cent fewer than last year for the entire United States; 37 per cent fewer in the Corn Belt.

Pig Crop to Be Smallest in Forty Years

Up to June 1 only 30,402,000 pigs were saved in the entire United States—a decrease of 19.6 per cent, or 7,405,000, compared with 1934. The Corn Belt saved 23,703,000—a decrease of 22.3 per cent compared with last year, or 42 per cent compared with 1933. The estimated decrease in the total number of spring and fall litters, compared with 1934, is 934,000, which is 41 per cent less than the big crop of 1933; in the Corn Belt, 44 per cent less. On the basis of these estimates, the 1935 pig crop will be the smallest in forty years. The heaviest decrease is in the western north-central states, which were hit hardest by drought. The figures indicate a disposition to raise more pork outside the metes and bounds of the Corn Belt, especially in the Cotton Belt, where a "raise-our-own-meat" slogan has been sounded, to the detriment of the northern hog-breeder.

Large Supply of Native Lambs

A vision of a \$10 lamb market faded late in June. Previously that price was registered, but when Idaho cut loose, a dollar was taken off the top price, which declined by successive stages, until \$8.50 was out on the limb and \$8 to \$8.35 bought

the bulk of Idahos at Chicago. A slight spurt at the end of the month put the top back to \$8.85, although \$8.75 was the practical stopping-point, the bulk selling in the \$8.25 to \$8.75 range. Corn Belt feeders were not interested in second cuts, throwing culs into killer hands at \$6.50 to \$7. Denver was literally gorged with northwestern lambs shipped from lowland pastures during the latter part of June, that market getting close to 50,000 during the last week. Fortunately, native lambs were held back on lush pastures, but a multitude of such lambs are on the market horizon. Nashville and Louisville were filled to the brim late in June, cracking the Jersey City price-list and backing up a surplus to Chicago. Thirty days hence the mid-southern crop will be in, but the largest crop of natives in two decades must be reckoned with, and the northwestern crop will carry tonnage, physical conditions indicating a short feeder end. Efforts to contract feeding lambs under \$6 in Montana have been abortive, but the whole crop has been bid \$5.50 to \$5.75 on Colorado and speculative account. A few \$6 sales in Wyoming mean bands with a fat top. Corn Belt feeders will hold back until something definite is known concerning the outcome of the corn crop, which means late August or, probably, early September. On July 1 the fat-lamb market was on practically the same basis as at the corresponding period of 1934, drought subsequently carrying prices down, until a \$6 to \$6.50 basis was reached. Conditions existing then will not, however, be repeated, as liquidation was responsible for the crash, and both beef and pork were on a bargain-counter. Tonnage is assured, as any deficiency in the northwestern lamb crop will be atoned for by added weight. Western breeders will not be under the necessity of forcing outlets for feeding lambs by sending them on contracts with the Corn Belt, as was the case last year, when incompetents bagged a large share of the crop. Dressed lamb is finding wider outlets, due to scarcity of other meats, and should get action, as chain stores are pushing it. Admission of Argentine chilled meats means an invasion of the Atlantic seaboard market by South American product, which will not be favorable to the price. Killers have set their pegs in the \$8 hole for top lambs at Chicago, and may make that grade.

COMPARATIVE LIVE-STOCK PRICES

BELOW ARE FIGURES SHOWING PRICES ON THE principal classes and grades of live stock at Chicago on July 3, 1935, compared with June 3, 1935, and July 2, 1934 (per 100 pounds):

	July 3, 1935	June 3, 1935	July 2, 1934
SLAUGHTER STEERS:			
Choice (1,100 to 1,500 lbs.)	\$11.50-12.75	\$12.75-14.00	\$ 8.50-10.25
Good	9.75-12.00	10.75-13.00	6.50- 9.50
Choice (900 to 1,100 lbs.)	11.00-12.25	11.75-13.50	7.50- 9.25
Good	9.50-11.50	10.50-12.75	5.75- 8.50
Medium (900 lbs. up)	8.25-10.50	8.50-11.00	4.75- 7.50
FED YEARLING STEERS:			
Good to Choice	9.25-11.50	9.75-12.50	5.75- 8.25
HEIFERS:			
Good to Choice	8.75-11.00	9.50-11.75	4.75- 7.25
COWS:			
Good	6.75- 7.75	7.00- 8.75	3.75- 5.00
CALVES:			
Good to Choice	7.00- 9.50	7.50-10.50	4.00- 6.25
FEEDER AND STOCKER STEERS:			
Good to Choice	6.75- 9.00	7.25- 9.25	4.00- 5.75
Common to Medium	5.00- 7.00	5.25- 7.50	2.75- 4.00
HOGS:			
Medium Weights (200 to 250 lbs.)	9.25- 9.80	9.85-10.10	4.65- 4.90
LAMBS:			
Good to Choice (90 lbs. down)	7.35- 9.00	8.25- 9.50	7.75- 8.65
EWES:			
Good to Choice	2.15- 3.50	2.10- 3.75	1.50- 2.25

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MARKET GOSSIP

J. E. P.

PASSING OF THE OLD CROP OF WINTER-FED CATTLE in June put the beef market on an underweight basis—a fortunate circumstance, as beef trade is unable to absorb any considerable quantity of heavy product. The crop of steers tucked away by feeders last fall was restricted to a relatively small area, comprised calves and yearlings in the main, and in one outstanding respect was unique, as every animal—steer or heifer—made money, proving more profitable, in fact, than any previous winter operation, not excepting that of war time. Gain cost was high, both corn and roughage were scarce over much of the feeding area, and, as feeders were denied access to government-loan grain, except at excessive cost, the crop was marketed prematurely. That prices reached abnormally high levels early in May was recognized, advancing cost over the retailer's block elicited protest—violent and passive—from consumers, and, despite a constantly diminishing tonnage, the fat-cattle market slumped continuously all through June. At the middle of the month, Chicago received a single one-day run of finished steers with weight, creating a false impression that feed-lots were full of that kind; but the illusion was promptly dispelled.

Stocker Cattle Remain in Good Demand

But, if fat-cattle prices slumped, the stocker market refused to join the procession. "Get cattle!" was the slogan, as lush pastures stimulated buying. Scores of country sales, supplied mainly by the central markets, netted handsome profits to speculators, who promptly returned to the markets for more cattle. Grass was the inspiration, as development of the new corn crop was far from promising and old corn was unavailable, even at 85 to 90 cents a bushel. This centered replacement demand on light cattle, demonstrating that it was a summer-grazing proposition. By the end of June the Corn Belt landscape was littered with hay-stacks, and should a September frost necessitate putting any considerable portion of the corn crop into silos, more cattle will be needed. Feeders with fat bank balances—the result of last winter's beef-making—are putting their money back into cattle, or will do so the moment replacement is possible. June volume in stocker trade fell off because cattle were not available, and for no other reason. Improved physical conditions in the Southwest peremptorily stopped previous liquidation, putting a crimp in available supply.

Outcome of Corn Crop Uncertain

At this writing, the new corn-crop outcome is a betting proposition. Much of it was "muddled in," a considerable acreage could not be planted, owing to excessive humidity, and early July found the entire acreage at least two weeks behind schedule, much of it weedy and with no prospect of "knee-high by the Fourth of July." However, with seasonal temperatures during July and August, development will be rapid, although continued low temperatures cause concern. Nature has effectively repressed the chinch-bug invasion, and the corn-borer has disappeared.

Growers Intent on Making Weight

Trans-Missouri cattle-raisers are making a bold front with respect to asking prices, refusing bids of 8 to 8½ cents a pound for fall delivery on calves, and prompt delivery on yearlings. They are intent on making weight and getting a grass bill. Realizing that the calf crop is short, also that young females must be retained for rehabilitation purposes, both speculators and feeders are anxious to contract cattle at

any price within reason, anticipating a scramble should the new corn crop sell down around 60 cents. Conscious of their strategic position, commercial breeders may adopt the policy of selling part of their increase to secure money for current expenses, carrying the remainder over. Western banks are in strong position, able to take care of their customers, while governmental credit has further alleviated financial stress.

Summer Beef-Making Will Be Restricted

Summer beef-making will be restricted by early disposal of mature steers, a disposition to market the new crop of yearlings at light weight, and the fact that the great bulk of steers acquired recently carried light weight, as they are intended for summer grazing. Killers at no other stage have permitted feeders to acquire many fleshy or two-way steers, the few that went to the country costing 9½ to 11 cents a pound—obviously a doubtful acquisition, especially during a period when fat cattle slumped \$2 to \$4 per cwt. Killers had a prompt outlet for the product of steers selling from 10½ cents down, which practically excluded feeders from such competition. The Corn Belt is carrying a considerable number of light cattle, munching grass and taking on cheap gains, making them ready to go on new corn the moment it can be snapped. The next crop of fat cattle cannot be started until that feed is ready.

Feeders' Margins to Be Narrower

Much ado has been made about an increase in stock-cattle investment, compared with the corresponding period of 1934, but the figures are deceptive, as at that time the country was liquidating rather than putting money into cattle. Pasture had disappeared, the corn crop was threatened with ruin, and the fat-cattle market was "shot." Fall replacement was curtailed to an extent that erected a bargain-counter at every market in the country, enabling sections where corn was only a partial failure to fill feed-lots on a grand-larceny basis. Naturally, now that feed is abundant, cattle are considered good property, even at enhanced values. Feed is always the factor of major importance in determining cattle values; price stability is impossible unless the miraculous can be invoked. That feeders' margins are at the contraction stage is a statement not open to serious contradiction, and,

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unless caution is exercised, these margins may be wiped out, especially if the in-and-out element returns to the game. A huge cavity, in a bovine-population sense, was created by the 1934 drought. Filling it will be a tardy process.

Suits to Test Constitutionality of Hog Tax

Assuming that the cattle-tax proposition has been buried, interest centers in the fate of the swine impost at the hands of the Supreme Court, where it is definitely headed. Suits to test its constitutionality are multiplying. Small packers in arrears to the government are securing injunctions restraining collection, although the coterie of big packers is not emitting a squawk, probably for political reasons, going to the extent of prohibiting employees from conversation on the subject. That the tax has been a hardship to packers on a limited scale is indisputable. The grounds on which they are seeking relief, however, are somewhat dubious. Contention that they are not in interstate commerce, and consequently immune to federal taxes, is in conflict with the Taft decision in the Stafford case to test the constitutionality of the Packers and Stock-Yards Act. Taft laid down the principle that the moment live stock emerged from pasture or feed-lot it automatically entered interstate traffic. If the present court upsets that decision, the Packers and Stock-Yards Administration will blow up. The fact that small packers are seriously in arrears with processing-tax payments is significant.

Adverse Decision Would Kill Production Control

Admitting that Congress has no authority for delegating its taxing power to the Secretary of Agriculture, which is what happened when he was empowered to fix and change the amount of the tax, that error may be retrieved by having Congress "freeze" the tax at a specified amount for a specified period. Other legal problems involved in pending litigation are technical, but may furnish ground for upsetting the entire bounty-payment scheme. Deprived of processing taxes, the New Dealers would be up against a stone wall; but even in that predicament they detect a way out, Secretary Wallace explaining that when, and if, an emergency of that nature arises, money can be secured from the Treasury. An adverse decision would, however, sound the knell of the production-control scheme.

Pork-Bootlegging Rampant

"G men" are busy all over the country investigating pork-bootlegging on an extensive scale. The term "hot" pork is inapplicable, as product sold surreptitiously is not stolen; rather, it is smuggled into distribution channels to evade payment of the tax. Large-scale sleuthing is making jobs for hundreds, but it is doubtful if the effort will get far, especially in collecting penalties. Small packers whose business has been damaged by bootleggers are doing most of the squealing, as a free masonry exists between neighbors which effectively prevents collection of evidence. Much of this pork-

bootlegging has been done on a residence-delivery basis, making detection impossible. Small-town meat-retailers have admitted buying such meat in many instances, but invariably have dealt with strangers. Nothing has ever been said about bootlegging stock pigs last fall, feeders acquiring them by the hundred thousand, invariably paying on a minus tax basis. County agents, whose big job is a maximum contract sign-up, are indifferent. In any event, furnishing information of violations would not add to their local popularity. Continuance of processing-tax collection means bootlegging pork on an even wider scale.

Hog Market Slumps in Early June

Despite meager current pork and lard production, the hog market went into a sinking spell early in June. Chicago's top dropped from \$10.25 to \$9.50 in thirty days, average drove cost declining in the same ratio. Stocks of meats did not diminish so rapidly as the trade expected, consumers resenting a tax on meat. Marked scarcity of 180- to 210-pound shipping hogs reflected light fall farrowing; also forced destruction of pigs last fall by contract-signers who had more than their allotment. Feeders who poked corn into hogs all winter, making a crop of 275- to 350-pound barrows, were "soaked" by a process of penalization from which big hogs suffered, these heavy butchers selling at \$8.75 to \$9.25, heavy sows going at \$8 to \$8.25. The whole market, from start to finish, was a disappointment to feeders, who confidently expected diminishing supply to send prices upward. Killers penalized off-quality hogs 50 cents to \$1 per cwt., as they pay the same processing tax as the pick of the crop. Late in June, Washington emitted a statement promising light slaughter the rest of the summer season. Stocks of cured and frozen pork are the lowest in twenty years, and current slaughter is the smallest, on a numerical basis, in thirty-five years. Export trade is at low ebb, and will continue on that basis.

Lambs Advance under High Beef and Pork Cost

High cost of other meats, especially beef and pork, has operated to the advantage of ovine product, lambs advancing 75 cents to \$1 per cwt. during June, while everything else on the live-stock list declined sharply. Chain stores have been pushing lamb sales, advertising cheapness of the product, with excellent results. Slaughter has been maintained, Idaho, Texas, Tennessee, and Kentucky cutting new-crop lambs loose, and, as the early movement from the Northwest carried phenomenal weight, tonnage has been heavy. Feeble efforts to contract lambs for fall delivery in the Northwest have not yet established a trading basis. Farm feeders are awaiting corn-crop developments, but will probably buy the early run of throw-out northwestern lambs, unless packers grab them, as, with abundant pasturage, they can graze initial cost down. Packers will feed few lambs next winter, unless they can buy on a rock-bottom basis, and it is a cinch bet that Montana will balk at sending thin lambs into Iowa on contract, with no certainty as to the outcome. Last winter's experience has left a bad taste in the mouths of both elements.

Factors Underlying Meat-Supply Conditions

Violence has ceased at eastern meat-consuming areas, enabling shopmen to resume business without inviting a barrage of bricks through their windows, but anti-meat agitation continues. Delirious editors prate about government destruction of 8,000,000 cattle and 6,000,000 pigs, without rhyme or reason. Washington is flooded with similar protest, indicating popular misunderstanding of factors actually responsible for current meat-supply conditions. Retailers, volatile in



Arizona to the fore!

Alfred Paul, Jr., of Douglas, who now owns the famous Packard Ranch, has just purchased a carload of WHR PRINCE DOMINO heifers and two fine yearling herd bulls—a grand set all the way through.

See us for good Herefords—Bulls or Heifers

WYOMING HEREFORD RANCH, Cheyenne

explanation of high cost, take the same slant, to their own detriment. Too much inflammatory gab on the subject is still coming out of Washington, the effect being inflammation of the consumer mind by creating an impression that prices are unreasonable. A no less prominent personage than Chairman Smith of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, representing South Carolina, in a fulmination late in June said: "High meat prices are the natural result of two factors: first, the artificial or government destruction of farrowing sows and immature pigs; second, the extreme drought of 1934 that cut off the feed supply necessary to support surviving cattle, hogs, and sheep." Thereupon the senator proceeded to insert his foot into his mouth with this admonition: "Prices will continue to rise until consumers buck up their sales resistance through a consumers' strike." Senator Smith, representing a state not engaged in commercial meat production, runs no risk of incensing his constituents by such blather, but every public utterance of this tenor, coming from presumably responsible sources, kicks at live-stock producers.

Argentine Treaty a Surprise

Cattledom, lulled into fancied security, had an awakening about the middle of June, when Buenos Aires sent word that a convention or treaty had been signed by the United States and Argentine governments, providing for admission to this market of Argentine meats, subject to ratification by the United States Senate. That this pot had been simmering since the Hoover period was no secret; that it had reached the boiling-point was not generally believed. That none of the Washington correspondents had even an inkling of the fact indicates how secretly negotiations were carried on, and, but for premature publication in *La Nacion*, of Buenos Aires, the treaty would probably have gone to the Senate in the nature of a surprise party. No official denial has come from Washington, nor is any possible, except that no intention to admit diseased meats exists. A Senegambian in the wood-pile is a clause in the convention providing "that the importation of plant or animal products shall not be prohibited by either country from areas which the importing country believes to be free from animal or plant diseases or from exposure thereto."

Entry of Argentine Meat Would Open Door to Disease

Senator O'Mahoney, of Wyoming, went to the bat the moment this surprise was sprung, issuing a statement in which he said: "There appears to be no prospect for ratification of this treaty at the present session of Congress. So far as I am personally concerned, I shall oppose any treaty or agreement that would adversely affect the domestic cattle industry." But how about the senators representing states of heavy meat consumption, with little or no consideration for the producing element? And who is to determine whether meat to be imported, if this treaty is consummated, comes from clean areas? Argentina has strenuously insisted for a decade past that its entire area is clean, despite emphatic contradiction by British scientists. Certainly no possible inspection at the port of entry will be competent to make such a determination. If Argentine meat enters this market, it will continue to be a competitive factor until another outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease develops.

Proposed Treaty Is Bid for Eastern Vote

That the proposed treaty reflects the recent New York meat strike is certain. It is a gesture toward eastern consumers—a palpable bid for their vote. Coming from the Department of State, it cannot be construed as a reprisal on western cattlemen for turning down the beef-tax proposition. Letting down the bars to South American beef is refutation of the contention of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration

that prospective supplies of domestic meat are ample, going to the length of suggesting that, unless expansion is controlled, a surplus is inevitable.

Low Production Costs Make Imports Possible

Meat in marine refrigeration at the River Plate is as close to New York as in a packing-house chill-room at Chicago, based on transportation cost; and expense incidental to processing cattle down there is 50 per cent less than in the United States, owing to the lower wage scale. Powerful interests are behind this innovation, including domestic owners of River Plate packing-plants, who will, naturally, handle the bulk of the business, as they possess the essential selling machinery. Argentina owes sundry hundreds of millions of dollars in the United States—obligations that can be most readily liquidated in goods; and, as its major exports to this country will be animal products, this liquidation process will be greatly facilitated by such a treaty. The present duty of 6 cents a pound may be partly evaded by shipping such portions of the carcass as command the most money—ribs, loins, and chucks—a ruse that Canada has found profitable recently.

HIDE MARKET UNCHANGED

J. E. P.

NOTHING NOTABLE HAS DEVELOPED IN THE HIDE market recently. Packer control is a stout prop under quotations, maintaining a 10- to 12½-cent trade. Light cow hides have sold freely in the 9½- to 10-cent range, this phase of the trade being apparently on a firm basis. Packers are not forcing sales, and successfully resist effort to take off fractions. On the other hand, leather trade is far from buoyant, heavy consumers having acquired enough raw material to meet immediate requirements, and showing a disposition to operate on a hand-to-mouth basis.

HOLDINGS OF FROZEN AND CURED MEATS

BELOW IS A SUMMARY OF STORAGE HOLDINGS of frozen and cured meats, lard, poultry, creamery butter, and eggs on June 1, 1935, as compared with June 1, 1934, and average holdings on that date for the past five years (in pounds except as otherwise noted):

Commodity	June 1, 1935	June 1, 1934	Five-Year Average
Frozen beef.....	44,589,000	24,256,000	29,349,000
Cured beef*.....	18,974,000	18,290,000	16,599,000
Lamb and mutton.....	2,557,000	1,363,000	2,247,000
Frozen pork.....	147,991,000	166,350,000	197,794,000
Dry salt pork*.....	66,306,000	98,450,000	117,423,000
Pickled pork*.....	290,718,000	376,768,000	406,963,000
Miscellaneous.....	57,248,000	52,599,000	65,206,000
 Total meats.....	628,383,000	738,076,000	835,581,000
Lard.....	91,708,000	182,240,000	127,974,000
Frozen poultry.....	48,311,000	39,790,000	43,654,000
Creamery butter.....	33,086,000	27,161,000	35,403,000
Eggs (case equivalent).....	8,787,000	10,503,000	10,452,000

*Cured or in process of cure.

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LIVE STOCK AT STOCK-YARDS

APPENDED ARE TABLES SHOWING RECEIPTS, SHIPMENTS, and federally inspected slaughter of live stock at sixty-two markets for the month of May, 1935, as compared with May, 1934, and for the five months ending May, 1935 and 1934:

RECEIPTS

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	1,066,714	1,191,652	5,354,314†	5,317,413
Calves	569,325	617,381	2,651,575†	2,643,626
Hogs	1,551,021	3,075,880	9,067,425	15,190,955
Sheep	2,251,059	2,114,275	9,430,427	8,798,127

TOTAL SHIPMENTS†

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	417,159	429,285	2,056,851	1,853,247
Calves	179,186	162,336	822,166	729,754
Hogs	476,885	798,264	2,845,602	4,474,072
Sheep	1,045,953	1,103,584	4,101,014	3,842,608

STOCKER AND FEEDER SHIPMENTS

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	195,770	135,866	869,884	607,524
Calves	40,773	25,778	168,339	126,839
Hogs	26,310	38,847	143,714	179,797
Sheep	86,000	154,643	596,514	560,591

SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION

	May		Five Months Ending May	
	1935	1934	1935	1934
Cattle*	735,463	864,075	3,573,976	3,948,493
Calves	508,030	600,228	2,354,628	2,568,288
Hogs	2,172,109	4,217,624	11,963,730	19,492,400
Sheep	1,584,125	1,244,491	6,922,592	6,216,603

*Exclusive of calves.

†Including stockers and feeders.

‡Includes cattle and calves purchased for Federal Surplus Relief Corporation.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS SUSTAIN WOOL MARKET

J. E. P.

GOVERNMENT ORDERS RESCUED THE WOOL MARKET from a lapse during the latter part of June. Subsequent to the miniature boom in May, inertia developed. Responsibility for that spurt was traced to short covering by manufacturers, who had taken orders for fabrics while "laying off" of the raw-material market. Having satisfied their immediate needs, they are awaiting new-clip developments. However, the signs are rather promising. Australia reports a short clip, foreign advices indicate a total clearance of spot wools in all the primary markets, the new domestic clip is short of that of 1934, and current consumption is heavy. Less than 50,000,000 pounds of old wool remain unsold in the hands of approved wool-dealers in this country, domestic manufacturers absorbing about 175,000,000 pounds during the January-to-May period this year. Short interests may have covered immediate requirements, but they may run into a similar position.

Prices have reacted to levels prior to the NRA court decision, holding on a firm basis. In the West, buying activity, while not pronounced, is in evidence, partly on mill and partly on speculative account. With the government in the market for large quantities of wool-goods, supplemented by civilian business, prices have been well sustained.

Both in Texas and the Northwest considerable wool is changing hands. Buying the best fine wools in Texas under 70 cents is difficult, twelve months' growth of desirable character selling at 72 to 73 cents, which means 25 to 26 cents in the grease for choice lots; average wools selling at 23 to 24 cents. In the Northwest, 90,000 pounds of the Swan clip sold at 18 cents—an estimated clean cost of 67 to 68 cents. In the bright-wool sections of Ohio, Michigan, and Missouri, 30 cents is the popular price for medium wools which meet government contract requirements.

Rarely in trade history have medium wools been in the same broad demand, a heavy poundage moving from the bright-wool states direct to mills. It is estimated that 80 per cent of such wools have already been absorbed.

Government contracts are the outstanding factor in the manufacturing situation, as new civilian business is slow, especially in the women's-wear sphere. Most of the government orders placed recently are on account of the Civilian Conservation Corps. They are equivalent to 30,000,000 pounds of wool and 10,000,000 pounds of noils. Current business at concentration points is not indicative of volume, as a large percentage is moving direct from interior points to mills. Fine wools are relatively cheaper than medium grades, and are considered in exceptionally strong position, which should revive buying in the West.

Japan has bought heavily at Brisbane sales; Italy has also taken large quantities in the Southern Hemisphere; but French buyers are not aggressive. The United States and Belgium have been conspicuously absent.

The prospect for merchandising the 1935 domestic clip at an early date is considered excellent.

WHOLESALE MEAT PRICES

WHOLESALE PRICES ON WESTERN DRESSED meats at Chicago on July 2, 1935, compared with June 3, 1935, and July 3, 1934, were as below (per 100 pounds):

FRESH BEEF AND VEAL

STEER (700 lbs. up.):	July 2, 1935	June 3, 1935	July 3, 1934
Choice	\$16.50-18.00	\$18.00-19.00	\$12.00-13.00
Good	14.50-16.50	16.50-18.00	11.00-12.00

STEER (500 to 700 lbs.):

Choice	16.00-17.50	17.50-19.00	11.00-12.50
Good	14.00-16.50	16.00-17.50	10.00-11.50

YEARLING STEER:

Choice	16.00-17.00	17.50-18.50	10.50-11.50
Good	14.00-16.00	16.00-17.50	9.50-10.50

COW:

Good	11.50-12.50	14.00-15.00	7.50- 9.00
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VEAL:

Choice	13.00-14.00	15.00-16.00	8.50- 9.50
Good	12.00-13.00	14.00-15.00	6.50- 8.50

FRESH LAMB AND MUTTON

LAMB (45 lbs. down):	Choice	\$16.00-17.00	\$15.50-18.50	\$16.00-18.00
Good		15.00-16.00	14.50-17.50	14.00-16.00

MUTTON:

Good	9.00-10.00	10.00-11.00	6.50- 7.50
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FRESH PORK CUTS

LOINS:	8-12 lb. average	\$21.00-23.50	\$23.50-26.00	\$13.50-14.50
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FOREIGN

ENGLISH LIVE-STOCK LETTER

BY JOSEPH RAYMOND

[Special Correspondence to *The Producer*]

LONDON, June 15, 1935.

AFTER A LONG PERIOD OF DEPRESSION IN THE cattle markets of Great Britain, prices for best-grade beasts have recently firmed up, and it is evident that the beef-producer is now more able to respond to the demand for small, well-finished cattle. In this he has been largely assisted by the subsidy, although the meat trade is still protesting that the low-qualifying dressed weight of 54 per cent is encouraging the marketing of overgrown stinks as beeves.

The subsidy itself is now regarded with almost universal equanimity, but both producers and meat-traders have been keeping an anxious eye upon the meat conference in London in regard to the future source of the deficiency payments.

It has been evident all along that not only was the government determined to enforce a levy upon imported meat—to form a fund to assist the home producer to meet overseas competition—but that the present system of quantitative regulation of imports was to be continued, as well, in a modified form. The latter is now the only point on which producers and distributors are at variance, the meat trade urging the abolition of quotas altogether, if a levy is to be imposed.

So far as the British government is concerned, it is being left to the importing parties to arrive at an agreement among themselves as regards voluntary quotas. On the other hand, the home farmer is anxious that definite restrictions should be enforced, with a sliding scale to operate as beef production here increases sufficiently to enable home-killed meat to take the place of the imported article to a greater extent. In turn, the meat trade inclines very strongly to the policy of a levy without quotas, on the ground that cheap beef always results in a good demand. In any case, the effects of the quotas are now beginning to be felt at the wholesale centers, and are resulting in lighter pitchings, while home-bred cattle are participating in the general rise in values.

Fat steers are now fetching from \$8.50 to \$9.50 per live cwt.—an increase of fully 80 cents over the past month. Stores are also coming off the pastures in good condition, two-year-olds averaging \$68 each, and yearlings \$49 a head.

The sheep trade has been the brightest spot in the British live-stock industry for some time, but a drop in demand has now set in, and the quotations are generally lower. The low price for wool, and the keener request for small mutton, have led farmers to concentrate upon Down, Suffolk, and short-wooled breeds; but, despite heavier penning and the present setback in values, on the whole prices are substantially above those prevailing at this time last year. Fat mutton sheep are now selling at 23 cents a pound, with lambs making 27 cents. Ewes with lambs at foot are selling readily at firm rates, but other store sorts are generally cheaper. All pastures appear to be in excellent condition, and the general run of lambs coming forward are in very good condition.

Store hogs are in keener request than had been anticipated, feeders evidently being influenced by the more settled working of the bacon scheme and the Minister of Agriculture's declared policy with regard to the home bacon market.

Mr. Elliot recently announced that the government had had the pigs and bacon import scheme under review, and had considered certain developments of the general plan for limiting imports and assisting the home producer, which might be made for the benefit of all concerned. They propose that the policy of maintaining a limited market should be continued. They are prepared to contemplate, as from the beginning of next year, an increase in the volume of imported supplies, with the imposition of a limited charge upon imports from foreign countries, the proceeds of which would be devoted to the assistance of the home industry as the situation may require. As the arrangement would involve conversations with certain foreign countries which have at present treaty rights for free entry of food into the United Kingdom, the government proposes to open negotiations with these countries immediately. This declaration has given great satisfaction to pig-producers.

The main stumbling-block, however, is likely to be the trade agreement with Denmark, which sends the bulk of the foreign bacon into the United Kingdom. The agreement stipulates that bacon imports should be free of duty, and a levy can be imposed only if Denmark agrees to it. The Pigs and Bacon Marketing Boards have urged that a levy should be imposed on all imported bacon, with a preference of 50 per cent for Dominion supplies. It is estimated that a levy of \$2.50 per cwt. on foreign bacon and \$1.25 on Dominion bacon, as suggested, would yield about \$17,000,000 a year for the benefit of the home producer and the home bacon industry.

The Minister of Agriculture contends that the government's proposals will result in a steady price being maintained for bacon hogs, thus obviating the levies which curers have to pay to the producers when feed prices are high, and those which the producers have to pay to the curers when prices of bacon fall, to regulate prices all around. A last-minute rally by the producers to the standard of the bacon scheme has just saved the whole project from disaster. The contract price for bacon hogs has risen this month to \$2.64 per score for basic-grade hogs. This is an improvement on the May and April prices, which were wholly unremunerative, but the producers consider that the position is still far from satisfactory. The selling price of bacon, which now very largely determines the contract price of graded hogs, is a fluctuating factor, and while, at the moment, curers have no difficulty in making enhanced prices, there is no certainty that bacon values will not fall again, leaving the producer tied to a contract which returns him an unremunerative price.

Farmers say that they will feel more happy about the future of the pig industry when a duty is imposed on foreign bacon, and funds are available to bridge the gap between the cost of producing bacon hogs and their value to the curer, which varies with the wholesale price of bacon. Before the new turn of policy was announced, it was very doubtful indeed whether many producers would contract for a full supply of bacon hogs next year.

Herd Bulls

Range Bulls

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CATTLE

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Larkspur, Colorado R. P. Lamont, Jr., Owner

LIVE-STOCK INTERESTS IN AUSTRALIA

BY A. C. MILLS

[Special Correspondence to The Producer]

MELBOURNE, May 20, 1935.

ABOUT THREE-FOURTHS OF QUEENSLAND IS IN the grip of one of the worst droughts known in that state. Already losses of stock have been heavy, and are likely to be heavier before the expected wet season opens next summer. Sheepmen are having a particularly unfortunate spin, though very many cattle-breeders in the north also are being hard hit by the prevailing dry conditions. It is unusual to hear of dingoes (wild dogs) attacking full-grown cattle, but that is what is happening in some parts this winter. Wild game has evidently moved out of the drought areas, or else perished, and dingoes are becoming desperate; hence the tearing down of cows and heifers.

The cattle country best off in respect to feed and water is located toward the east coast. Even there, however, pastures are drying off, and, as a result, owners are rushing fats to the coastal packing-plants for slaughter before condition is lost. All the meat-works are now operating pretty well to capacity, and are preparing a large tonnage of frozen or chilled beef for shipment oversea.

Fortunately, buying rates have stood up in the face of the flood of supplies. Packers operating in south Queensland are buying on the basis of \$5.50 a hundred pounds, frozen weight, delivered, for first ox feed, and \$5 for second. Packers in central Queensland are paying \$5 a hundred for first and \$4.30 for second, while the rate in the north ranges from \$3.85 to \$4.30 for firsts and from \$3.25 to \$3.60 for seconds. It is anticipated that relatively few fats will be left for slaughter after June, unless the season changes very much for the better.

The prices realized for pedigree cattle at the sales held in connection with the Sydney Royal Show at Easter reflected the adverse season being experienced in the breeding country in the north. Compared with last year, values were down about 30 per cent. The top paid at auction for a Shorthorn bull was 460 guineas (approximately \$2,300); for a Hereford, 540 guineas (say, \$2,700); and for an Aberdeen-Angus, 190 guineas (\$950). American readers may be interested to hear that Polled Herefords were offered for the first time at the Sydney show sales. The best price obtained by an individual was an average of slightly over 100 guineas (\$500) for three bulls. Polled Herefords are steadily gaining in favor in Australia—so much so that the breeders have found it advisable to form a fully constituted breed society to supply information to those interested. The demand for Polled bulls is said to exceed the supply. The last shipment of studs from the United States was so satisfactory that arrangements are in hand for importing another consignment.

The recently published eighth annual report of the Coun-

cil for Scientific and Industrial Research calls to mind the useful work that body is doing in behalf of primary producers in the Commonwealth. When the council was created by the federal government in 1926, it had to break new ground; for Australia was one of the first countries to set up a single organization to carry out research in relation to practically any branch of industry and applied science. Recognizing the vital importance of the pastoral and agricultural industries to the commonwealth, it was wisely decided to concentrate at first on the control of such pests as the prickly pear, the sheep blowfly, and the buffalo fly; on the development of plants of economic value capable of being grown in the drier parts of the continent; the control and eradication of animal diseases; and latterly the development of methods whereby greater quantities of Australian-grown perishable foods could be placed on the markets of the world.

The remarkable success met with in connection with the eradication of prickly pear has been referred to in previous contributions. Sufficient to say here that the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, in conjunction with the Commonwealth Prickly Pear Board, has been instrumental in clearing many millions of acres of densely infested land in Queensland and northern New South Wales, much of which has now been settled and brought into useful production.

Progress in connection with the control of the blowfly and buffalo-fly pests has not been so spectacular, though valuable work is being done. The data relating to susceptibility to fly-strike in sheep which have been collected should prove of material importance in breeding operations in districts where the fly is particularly troublesome. Also, extremely useful information has been gathered regarding the relative attractiveness of different baits in blowfly traps. For instance, it has been demonstrated that the treatment of baits with sodium sulphide considerably increases their drawing power for flies, and, what is more, baits so treated remain attractive for an unusually long period. So far efforts to destroy blowflies by means of parasites have not been successful, but hopes are held out that something in that direction may be accomplished with the buffalo-fly pest. To date over 14,500 parasites have been liberated in the northern parts of Australia.

Considerations of space make it inadvisable to particularize what is being done to control and eradicate animal diseases. It may be said that the investigations cover pleuro-pneumonia, peg-leg, and tick fever in cattle; fluke and intestinal worms in sheep; joint ill in foals; foot-rot; and many other complaints. That the studies and experiments will go a long way toward reducing the heavy loss of stock from preventable disease there can be little doubt. A good deal has already been done in that direction by the spread of knowledge of primary causes, and by the development of vaccines and preventive medicines.

From the cattle-grower's point of view, one of the more important investigations carried out by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research has been in relation to the safe holding of chilled beef during relatively long ocean voyages. Thanks to these, and to the work of the British Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, a technique of post-mortem treatment, handling, stowage, and air-conditioning has been developed whereby it is possible to make shipments of soft beef from the farthest parts of Queensland to Great Britain, involving transport lasting well over fifty days. Chilled quarters are now being marketed in London in excellent condition up to sixty days after the cattle were slaughtered in Queensland. The selling price is usually about 2 cents a pound higher than that of frozen beef.

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THE BULLETIN BOARD

CATTLE ON PASTURE

The spring movement of cattle into the Bluestem and Osage pastures of Kansas and Oklahoma was about 14 per cent smaller than last year, and the smallest in many years, according to the Division of Crop and Live-Stock Estimates.

The two sections received 266,000 head of cattle from January 1 to May 1, 1935, compared with 309,000 in 1934. The five-year (1928-32) average is 356,000.

The Osage pastures received 75,000 head of cattle and calves for the same period, compared with 98,000 head last year, the five-year average being 91,000 head.

WASPS FROM EGYPT

Traveling over fast air and water routes, three lots of promising little wasps from Egypt have recently reached the United States. They are now building up an army soon to be turned loose against the pink bollworm in the few North American cotton-fields invaded by this destructive pest, which has not yet reached the main Cotton Belt here. Every effort is being made to keep it from doing so.

One of the small wasps—*Microbracon kirkpatricki*—has long been a natural enemy of pink bollworms in East Africa. It was successfully colonized in Egypt several years ago, but efforts to import it into North America failed. The delicate little insect could not stand the long, hard journey. Air express and fast ocean liners, with modern refrigeration facilities, however, have removed the hazard of travel. From the Egyptian parents that came safely over, a large number of American-born wasps are now ready in the Presidio, Texas, insectary for release in cotton-fields.

The other two newcomers—*Exeristes roborator* and *Elasmus*—are native parasites of the pink bollworm in Egypt. Some time ago *Exeristes* was brought into the United States from Europe to prey upon the European corn-borer. When liberated against the pink bollworm in Texas, however, this wasp seemed unable to adapt itself to conditions there. Perhaps, entomologists say, the strain from the banks of the Nile will do better.

INTERNATIONAL ALBUM FOR 1934

B. H. Heide, general manager of the International Live Stock Exposition, announces that the "Review and Album" of the 1934 show is now ready for distribution. The book consists of over three hundred pages, profuse in full-page illustrations of champions in all classes and departments. A limited supply is available, and the book may be had for \$1 from the International Live Stock Exposition, Union Stock Yards, Chicago.

DEER ALTER WINTER MENU

Having eaten themselves out of their once favorite winter browse—white cedar, with maple as the hardwood diet—deer of the Mondeaux district of the Chequamegon National Forest in Wisconsin have now turned to substitutes, and prefer their menu arranged accordingly: blue-

berry, red maple, witch hazel, white cedar, red osier, dogwood, balsam fir, wild gooseberry, black ash, mountain maple, pussy willows, and sugar maple.

THE LAST OF THE CARIBOU

A vast boggy swamp north of Upper Red Lake, Minnesota, provides a home for the only remaining native caribou within the forty-eight states. About a dozen animals of the woodland species constitute the herd, it is estimated. Their range was the scene a few years ago of drainage operations that failed, and the area is now a state refuge for caribou, moose, deer, grouse, migratory waterfowl, beavers, otters, muskrats, and other wild life.

The Biological Survey, state authorities, and conservationists are co-operating in working out means of safeguarding this last stand of the caribou in the United States.

Without Delay.—The sleight-of-hand performance was not going very well.

"Can any lady or gentleman lend me an egg?" asked the conjurer, coming down to the footlights.

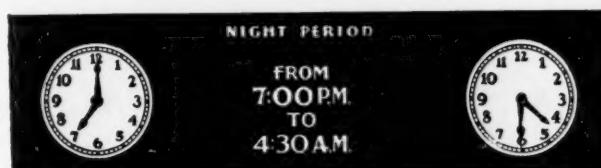
"If we'd 'ad one," shouted a man in the audience, "you'd 'ave 'ad it before this."—*Vancouver Daily Province*.

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ROUND THE RANGE

GOVERNMENT RANGE AND LIVESTOCK REPORT

Western ranges showed a marked improvement during June, most of them having come back remarkably well, considering the drought in 1934. Moisture generally is ample, except in southwestern Kansas, southeastern Colorado, western Oklahoma, west Texas, parts of the west Texas Panhandle, western and southern New Mexico, and some areas in Oregon and Washington. Much of the drought area is lightly stocked, which will give the native grasses a chance. Cattle are generally in good condition. Calves, after a bad start, are now doing well. Sheep are in good flesh, and late lambs are making good gains.

Condition by states follow:

Arizona.—Feed on ranges good, with grass matured and dry; water low in places, and rain needed in some sections; cattle and sheep in good flesh; calf crop larger than expected.

California.—Condition of range and pasture feed favorable; all areas abounding in cured feed, and extensive stubble-feed acreage will soon be avail-

able; grass-fat cattle marketings in full swing, with fairly heavy sales; abundance of feed enables growers to avoid crowding market; late lambs developing well.

Colorado.—Range feed good, except in southeast, where deficiency of moisture exists; mountain and high valley ranges exceptionally good; cattle and sheep in fine shape, except in southeast.

Idaho.—Conditions on ranges declined slightly during June, due to dry weather; feed in lower sections good and well matured; high ranges drying fast; summer and fall feed prospects best in several years; cattle and sheep in good condition.

Kansas.—Pastures have grown well, but are weedy; northwestern counties have had barely sufficient rains, while most of southwest is dry; corn made good growth in eastern two-thirds, but cultivation needed; cattle made good gains.

Montana.—Live stock and ranges have made good gains; few areas in central, north-central, and northeastern sections need rain; later feed depends on rain.

Nebraska.—Pasture and range conditions generally good, with ample moisture; cattle made excellent gains; feed conditions good in Sand Hills area; calf crop short.

Nevada.—Good crop of grass on ranges; rain needed in few places; hay crop good; live stock in good condition.

New Mexico.—Ranges in eastern half and southwest need rain; some areas in eastern, south-central, and southwestern parts of state dry; higher ranges good; cattle and sheep doing well; calf and lamb crops short in last year's drought area.

North Dakota.—Recent showers helped western sections; live stock making excellent gains.

Oklahoma.—Excessive rains made good feed in entire state, except western counties; cattle in good flesh, but flies bad in some areas.

Oregon.—Many localities improved by late June rains; moisture needed in central, north-central, and eastern areas; cattle and sheep in good condition; some areas have short hay crop.

South Dakota.—Range feed continued improving, with good prospects for later feed; cattle in good flesh; sheep have done well, but lamb crop light in western sections; some cattle coming in for pasture.

Texas.—Except in western Texas and northwestern Panhandle, where rain is needed to revive grass, ranges generally are good; areas in western third have ample top-soil, but deficient sub-soil, moisture; cattle made excellent gains, except in western dry areas; sheep ranges improved, except in extreme west; sheep and lambs making good

gains, but lamb crop light; no great tendency to restock seen in areas selling close last fall; some cattle have returned; restocking consists mainly in holding young stock.

Utah.—June rainfall light, but ranges good, with promising prospects for later feed; cattle and sheep in good condition.

Washington.—High ranges exceptionally good; Big Bend section and some eastern ranges deficient in moisture; cattle and sheep making good gains.

Wyoming.—Range feed good; cattle and sheep in good condition; calf and lamb crop somewhat short; hay crop good.

DEER SHIPMENTS

More than 900 fawns from the Kaibab National Forest, in northern Arizona, have been shipped by the Forest Service to thirty-four states and to Canada during the past eight years. These fawns went to public parks and zoos, for stocking other deer ranges, and for other public uses. They were taken from ranges of the Kaibab Forest where there was such a surplus number of deer as to cause starvation conditions. Raising and shipping fawns was one of the methods used to relieve the overstocked condition of the range and at the same time put the surplus numbers of deer to good use.

RANCHES, large or small, for sale, exchange, or lease, in Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, Wyoming, Montana, California, Canada, Central and South America, Africa, and islands of the sea. J. D. FREEMAN, Gunter Building, San Antonio, Texas.

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480 acres, San Joaquin County, per acre	\$65
500 acres, Yolo County, per acre....	\$65
855 acres, Plumas County.....	\$30,000
1,000 acres, Glenn County.....	\$16,000
1,360 acres, Siskiyou County.....	\$20,000
1,400 acres, all stocked, Nevada....	\$50,000
2,200 acres, Butte County, per acre....	\$75
2,700 acres, El Dorado County, acre....	\$15
6,000 acres, Eastern Oregon.....	\$25,000
7,800 acres, Tehama County, acre....	\$4.50
12,500 acres, Tehama County....	\$125,000

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